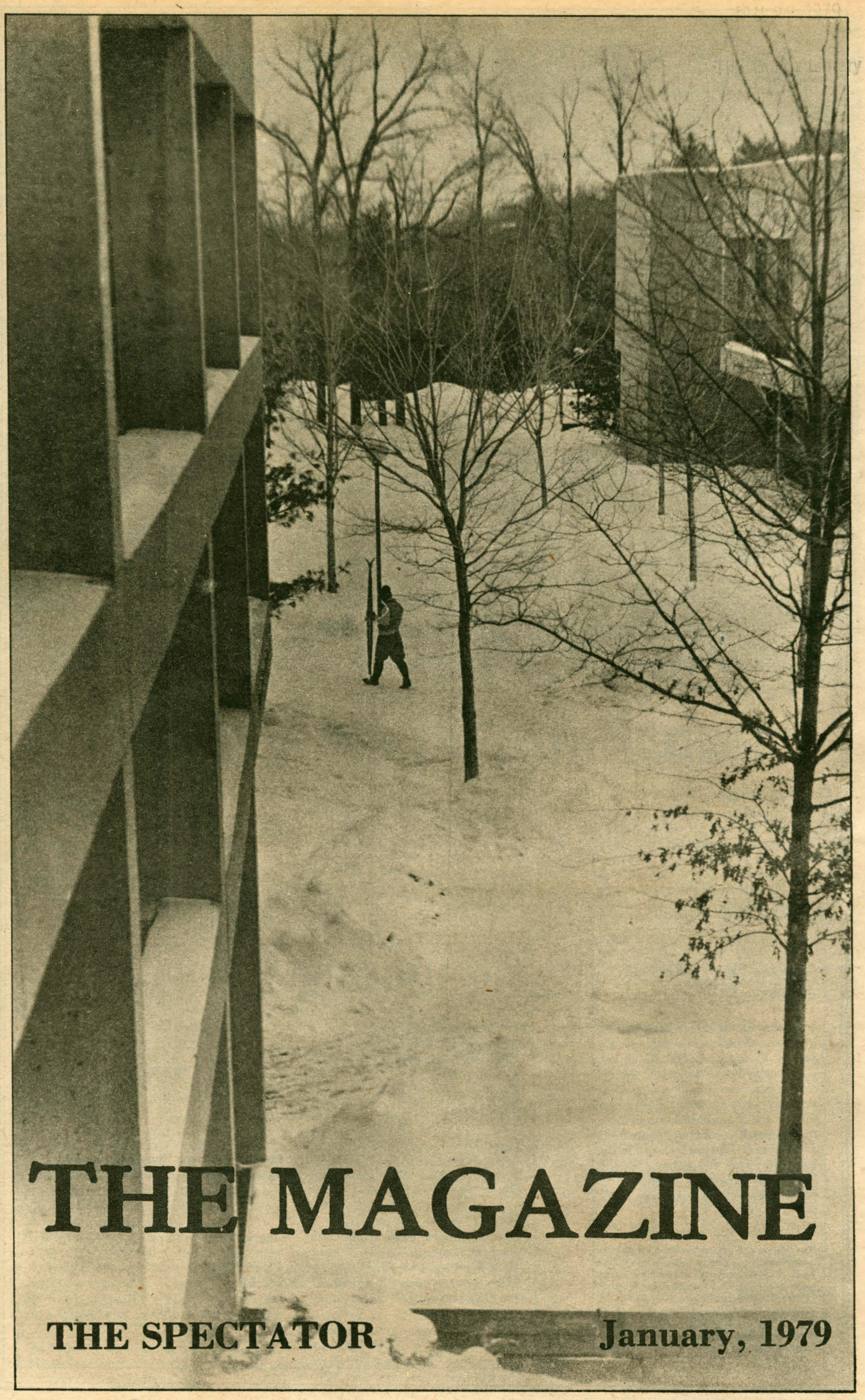

THE MAGAZINE

THE SPECTATOR January, 1979

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Volume IX, Number 13
January, 1979

During the month of January, the Spectator abandons its regular weekly format in favor of The Magazine. The feature-length articles presented in this issue are lengthier, less news-oriented, and, we hope, more entertaining and comprehensive than those in our weekly editions. Newsbriefs and sports articles are included in the back of The Magazine. Weekly publication resumes February 9, under the editorship of Philip Ruppel.

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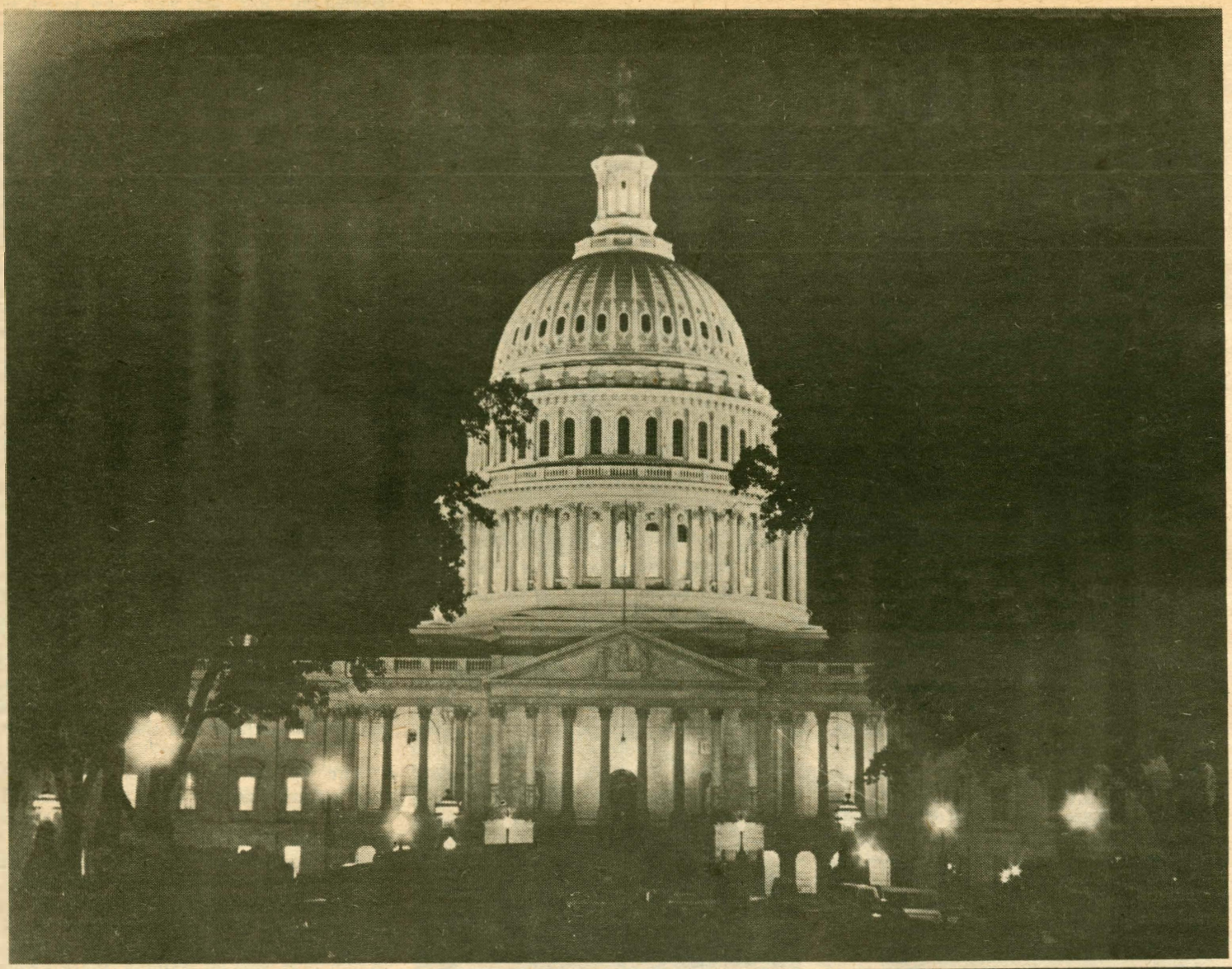


So How Was Washington?

By Ivan Kline, John Murad, and Lance Portman

Upon our return to the Hill this January, we had to figure out a comprehensive and amusing answer to the common question always asked of us, "how was Washington, D.C?" This is our public response to the question.

The Hamilton College Semester in Washington Program has been in existence for ten years and offers the opportunity for students to combine work experience in our nation's capitol with academic studies, providing an alternative for those students who wish to leave the Hill for a semester but can not speak French or Spanish. Interestingly enough, this year's director, Assistant Professor of Government Frank Anecharico, was an early participant on the Washington Program while an undergraduate here.

During the semester, each participant spends six weeks as an intern in Congress with either an individual Congressman's office or with a Congressional committee, and six weeks in an office in the executive branch of the government. Coupled with these internships are two formal classes which culminate in a final research paper.

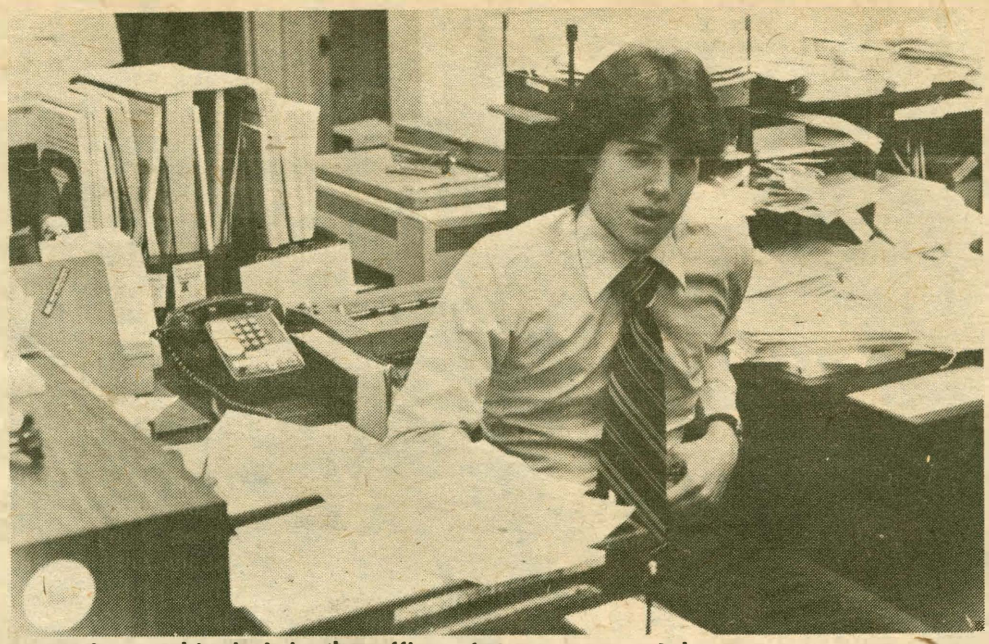
While the program by its very nature is obviously oriented towards studying the government, it is not a program solely for government majors. The experiences it affords would be valuable for almost any undergraduate; as this year's director implied, the program would greatly benefit if students other than "pre-law nerds" would participate. Not only must the participants find their internships, but they also are responsible for their own living arrangements. Becoming tenants and commuters in Washington is far different from living in Dunham and commuting to Commons.

Our experience in Washington was marked by our bizarre dealings with our landlord. In a rather segregated city with distinct neighborhood boundaries, our apartment, which was the basement of a dentist's home and office, lay in the "fashionable" northwest corner of Georgetown. Our rather flighty dentist-landlord, known in our neighborhood as the "toothfairy", seemed to lack both patients and control of his mental faculties. He apparently was often under the influence of his own nitrous-oxide; at any rate, dealing with him was never ordinary or simple.

The "toothfairy" appeared to have a myriad of problems, all of which sooner or later involved us. Early in the semester, his crazed ex-wife barged into our apartment and demanded that we leave, claiming that she, and not her "misguided" husband was the actual owner of the apartment. Lance calmly listened to her for several minutes before requesting her departure. The following day the ex-wife returned with her children and a crowbar and proceeded to break in upstairs. The police later came to discuss the matter with us, mentioning that the wife claimed to own the building. Lance noted that use of a crowbar is a strange way for someone to enter one's own apartment. At another point in the semester, we returned from a hard day in Congress only to be greeted by two men in a black sedan who appeared to have come directly from the set of the "Godfather;" the two gentlemen were interested in the whereabouts of the "good doctor", apparently because the doctor was no more competent with betting on the ponies than he was with handling his ex-wife.

The three of us happened to encounter the Senator in a men's room...Not only did the Senator chomp on his cigar in a sloppy fashion, but he tucked his tie into his baggy suit and left without washing his hands.

The three authors, all members of the class of '80, are veterans of the Fall 1978 Hamilton Semester in Washington.



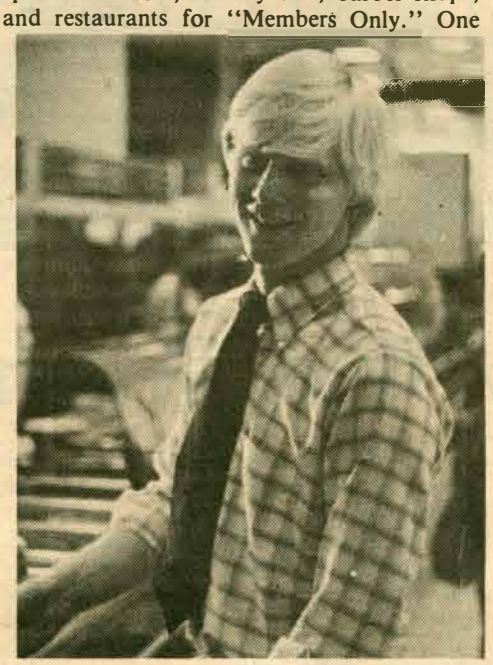
Ivan Kline at his desk in the office of Congressman John Conyers of Michigan.

For one whole month, our beloved landlord remained in hiding from his wife, the mafia, and in effect from us, his tenants. At the beginning of this month, a small leak started in the kitchen sink, which proceeded to become a waterfall that flooded half the apartment. Just as the loansharks were unable to locate our landlord, so were we; at one point we used our sofa as a raft to get from the living room to the bathroom. Several desparate tactics failed, including Ivan's use of his hairdryer to blow-dry the carpet. Shortly after our apartment dried up through natural evaporation, another flood occurred. Lance and John, after filling their bodies with foreign substances, did not notice the hose break on the washing machine until the television set was carried away by the tide.

Luckily, we did not have to spend much of our time in the above mentioned apartment. Each moring by 8:00 the three of us were on our way to serve in the United States Government. Spending the first six weeks in the offices of Congressmen John Conyers of Michigan, Father Bob Drinan of Massachusetts, and Hamilton Fish, Jr. of New York, we performed such various duties as answering constituent mail, reporting on committee hearings, researching legislative proposals, and of course, going for coffee. We also mastered, naturally, the art of proper conversation and behavior at a Capital Hill cocktail party. While none of us directly encountered an Elizabeth Ray, we did meet some individuals whose positions in Congessional offices were not, should we say, well defined. One such "assistant" befriended John at a reception and made rather suggestive remarks; John, despite the urging of other Hamilton students, backed away, noting that she was old enough to be his grandmother.

Since Congress was preparing to adjourn, our six weeks on the Hill enabled us to participate in the hectic political maneuverings present at the close of each Congress. With sessions running well into the night and the Congressional agenda crammed with proposed legislation, our offices often worked at a frantic pace. We were useful enough as interns to be asked to work on weekends to help the offices keep pace with their tight schedules. While none of us became top aides, we each undertook several projects which gave us specific areas of respnsibility. As mentioned before, one such responsibility was reporting on important committee hearings which other office members could not attend. Senator Kennedy's hearing on national health insurance had a high turnout of interns who were more impressed with the Senator himself than with the quality of his hearings. The three of us happened to encounter the Senator in a men's room while covering one such hearing, and were less than impressed by his physical appearance. Not only did the Senator chomp on his cigar in a sloppy fashion, but he tucked his tie into his baggy suit and left without washing his hands.

Usually, such encounters would not take place, as the Congressmen are segregated from the people they represent. Not only do they have their own bathrooms, but also there are special elevators, subway cars, barber shops, and restaurants for "Members Only." One



John Murad Fetching coffee.

Hamilton student, Ed Bonanno, once violated this strict segragation of members from everyone else: following what appeared to be a decrepit, elderly, and lost black woman, Ed entered a "Members Only" elevator, thinking "if she can ride, so can I." One story up, a Conngressman entered the elevator and greeted this "lost" lady with "how ar you today, Congresswoman Jordan?" Ed, realizing his *faux pas*, fled the elevator in terr r.

Contrary to popular belief, intern are not the lowest strata on the incredibly long social ladder of Washington. Below the interns are a blue-suited core of high-school seniors who serve as pages, or messengers, in the Congress. As the interns also run errands, contact between the pages and interns can be substantial. Noting that within the Washington social system it is a great honor to associate with those of higher social rank, the pages made great attempts at creating bonds with the interns. Ivan in particular became the attention of several female pages attempting to "move up on the social ladder."

After observing the Washington social scene for six weeks, we decided to have a reception of our own. Instead of mimicking Capitol Hill, however, our party appeared more like those found on this Hill. As it occurred over mid-semester break, several Hamilton students not on the program joined those of us in Washington, along with, believe it or not, several Skidmore girls, and of course, representatives of the colleges in Washington. When the party began to dissipate at 3:00 a.m., several of us drove to the Capitol to observe the Congressmen at work in an all night session. In the Senate, while Jacob Javits rambled on about some bill, one senator played the saxophone in the cloakroom and many others slept in their chairs on the floor.

□

The following Monday we became bureaucrats, and our days as Capitol Hill socialites came to an end. Working in the executive branch is a far cry from working in a Congressional office. With strict routines and clearly defined schedules, our lives became more routinized. While it is not fair to say that all bureaucrats are lazy or inefficient, we certainly found the work effort there to be less than it was in Congress. We all also found that the executive offices were better suited for longer internships as their work included many long term and ongoing projects.

Still, we did undertake a fair degree of responsibility in the six weeks. John, working for ACTION, and Ivan, working for the Justice Department, specialized in reading or researching documents or proposals. Lance, working as an investigator for the DC Public Defender Service, had the chance to become a real life "Mannix." Making trips to uncover and interview witnesses to crimes often led him into dangerous areas of the city. On one trip which we all made together to a particularly impoverished neighborhood, Lance had to be forced to leave the safety of his automobile, and was heard mumbling, "no lousy internship is worth getting killed over."

So how was Washington? Washington was interesting, exciting, educational, dangerous, rewarding, and most of all a refreshing and welcome alternative to the traditional academic study at Hamilton. □□

John Fellows, Ed Bonanno, and Craig Brooks leaving a group meeting in the Justice Department.

The Other Side of Ezra

By Kathy Hecht

A noted industrialist of the early twentieth century was reputed to have said, "I don't care what they say, as long as they mention my name." He was astute. With time it is the name which is remembered long after the deeds for which that person became famous are forgotten.

Like a mother bursting with pride when her children graduate with honors, Hamilton has preserved the memory of the names of many of her favorite sons, people who have become world-renowned judges, noted statesmen successful businessmen, and leaders of literary thought. And, as the wise, turn-of-the-century capitalist predicted, often little of what they accomplished is passed down except for an occassional story of college boy adventures.

Perhaps the most curious example of this form of name preservation is Ezra Pound. To most students, he is remembered only as a poet, and a difficult one at that. He lived a long life, and he died only recently (1972). But most people during the 1950's would not associate the eminent writer with poetry. In post World War II America, Pound was known as a Fascist, an antisemite, and a traitor.

It's difficult to pinpoint a specific event or person who directed Ezra on his self-appointed role as political ombudsman of American interests. Throughout his years as commentator for Rome Radio during the War, he always insisted he was an American, and that he wanted to warn his fellow countrymen what the influences of Jews and money were doing to them. To try to understand Pound's political extremism and his subsequent internment in prisons and hospitals, all of which appeared as themes in his work, one must examine the early years of his life to look for clues.

□

From all appearances, young Ezra had a pleasant childhood. Born in a small frontier town in Idaho on October 30, 1885, Ezra was the son of a civil servant. His family moved to Philadelphia, and although they never had much money, there was enough for summers in Newport, visits to New York, and a military education for the only child. He was apparently quite intelligent and a little precocious: by 15 he decided to be a poet and began learning the necessary skills, including nine languages. The University of Pennsylvania accepted him as a student before he reached the age of 16.

Like many other college boys, Ezra played tennis, fenced and ushered at football games. And, like many others, his grades were fair. By 1902 young Ezra set sail for Europe with a friend, and it was then that he began his lifelong love affair with Italy, and Venice in particular.

Upon his return he transferred to Hamilton College. Although some said that it was because his parents were unhappy with his progress and dismayed with his choice of friends—the young writers and artists—Ezra always insisted that he wanted to know the difference between a big university and a small college. He arranged with Hamilton's president, Melancthon Woolsey Stryker, to pursue two-year course of study as a special student. Absorbing himself in his study of language and literature, he credited three particular instructors with aiding the formation of his own literary production by introducing him to the richness of European works.

Professor Austin Briggs with the poet at Hamilton's 1968 commencement.

His courses for that first year on the Hill included German, English, French, Italian and mathematics. One day, Professor and Dean A.P. Saunders (for whom the Chemistry building is now named) made a remark about the word "independence." Pound remembered it; he himself was independent, and would always be.

Among the professions Pound toyed with were law and finance on Wall Street. He decided on consular service because the idea of travel appealed to him. He never did enter the field—at least not formally. During his radio-work in Italy, the loyal Pound always asserted that he was doing it for the good of the U.S. He did accept a position at Wabach College, a small Presbyterian institution in Indiana where he was responsible for the French, Spanish and Italian departments. He already began to speak of retiring to Italy.

Before he accepted this position, though, he returned to Philadelphia to get a masters at his former alma mater where he received a fellowship which enabled him to travel around the world, using the libraries of the great capitals in Europe. A falling out with the U. of P. officials ended that arrangement after a year.

By now Ezra was no longer a boy. He was in his early twenties, had already seen a good part of the Western World, and had begun to make a reputation for himself as a writer. He had become editor and contributor of *The Little Review* in 1917, and had developed friendships with other young writers such as William Carlos Williams. Europe had just passed through the Great War, and Pound was once again able to go abroad. It was during these post war years that he mingled with the famous expatriot crowd of London and Paris. He corresponded with Hemmingway, met Gertrude

Kathy Hecht '79, Editor-in-Chief, concludes her seven-semester Spectator tenure with this article.

Stein twice (they didn't get along) and became friends with Yeats, T.S. Eliot, and the Surrealists.

By the fall of 1924 he decided to return to his first love, Italy, this time with his wife, Dorothy. After travelling from Florence in the north to the Sicilian city of Palermo, they finally settled in Rapallo, a small resort town on the Italian Riviera, near the great seaport of Genoa. This would be their home for the next twenty years.

Up through the thirties Pound's writing was fairly literary in nature, although some of his political views were alluded to. But as the war drew closer he abandoned poetry in favor of anti-war propaganda. He put the blame on the leaders of democratic countries, and his articles were cropping up in such diverse publications as Fascist reviews, the Times (London) Literary Supplement, Esquire, and communist newspapers. He wrote thousands of letters to friends and political leaders, including Mussolini. In fact, as Hitler and the Italian leader began their rapid ascent to power, Pound began to praise the two in letters and other writings. He wrote to Mussolini and requested an interview. In the letter, Pound said he wanted to discuss his observations of the positive effects of Fascism, and working conditions in the sulphur mines of Sicily. The meeting was granted. Although they only met once, Pound never forgot the experience, and kept up a steady correspondence with this regime during the war. What impressed the poet about Mussolini was the dictator's attentiveness to poetry, Pound's in particular. Ezra gave him a copy of his Cantos, and Mussolini responded by saying he understood some of the images presented. From then on the politician had the respect, and devotion, of the poet.

In the mid-thirties, Pound produced two works which outlined his political standpoint. The first was a series of writings called *Money Pamphlets,* and the second was a book entitled *Jefferson and/or Mussolini.* In defending the title he argued that the two leaders had more in common than they differed, the main point being that they were both geniuses. In an addendum to the pamphlets on money, Pound included an "Introductory Text Book." It was brief—there are four chapters in it, and one of them reads as follows:

"All complexities, confusion, and distress in America arise, not from defects in their constitution or confederation, not from want of honor and virtue, so much as from downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation." -JOHN ADAMS

The other three chapters were equally brief, and included similar sentiments by Lincoln, Jefferson and Washington.

Through all this time he still clung to the belief that he was writing in hopes of wakening the American people to reality so that they may correct the deficiencies in their democratic system, perhaps by embracing several of the ideas of the Fascist state. He felt that in order to reach more people, he should go back to the States for a visit. The year was 1939, and it was spring. The trip would be termed a failure by Pound himself.

During the two months that he was back home, he stayed with his old friend, William Carlos Williams, had lunch with H.L. Menchen, visited the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and met with senators, presidential advisors and the press. He tried to warn Americans that they could prevent the war, if only they turned away from usury, the kind employed by the Federal Reserve Bank, the tax system, and the munitions producers. He left the states angry, but before he did, he returned to one place where some of his ideas had been formulated.

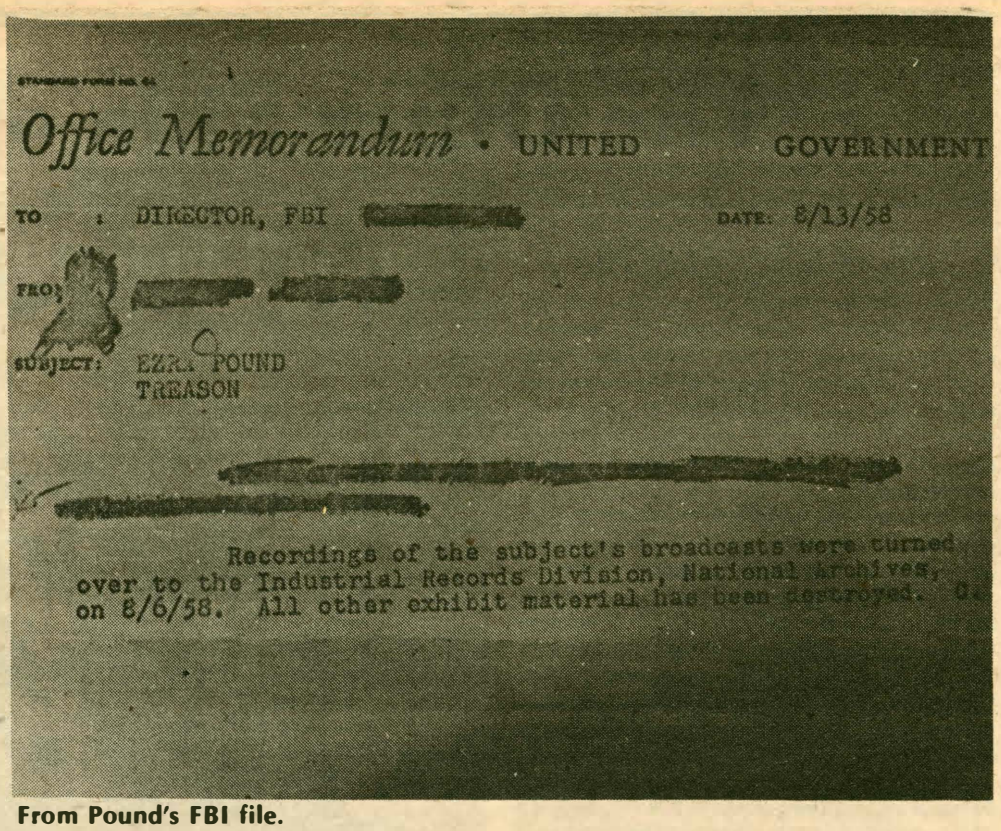
It was time for commencement, and Hamilton asked Pound if he would receive an honorary degree. Before the ceremony, the former student returned to one of his favorite spots: the tennis courts. The degree citation acknowledged his scholarship and his thirty years as an expatriate. "Your Alma Mater, however, is an old lady who has not always understood where you have been going, but she has always watched you with interest and pride if not always with understanding," read the citation. Everything was going splendidly until the annual alumni luncheon. H.V. Kalternborn, a well-known news analyst and commentator who had also received a degree was the speaker. "Dictatorships shall die but democracies shall live," said the speaker. "Although the latter are more expensive and less efficient in organizing for a single purpose," Kaltenborn continued, "they are not wasteful of fundamental values." But it wasn't until he questioned the alliance between Italy and Germany as "doubtful" did Pound rise in anger. A full-scale shouting match developed, and not even his former mentor A.P. Saunders could calm the poet. President William Cowley finally intervened, but Pound got the last word. In his speech which followed, he ended with a reading of his "Introductory Text Book."

Pound did not forget that incident, nor did a lot of other people. Following the incident, he wrote a letter to the President defending his actions. Soon after, he returned to Italy, World War II erupted, carrying the serious writer into the midst of it like an ocean engulfing a lost ship.

□

Not all Italians were in favor of Ezra Pound's broadcasts. Several went so far as to call him a double agent and insane—two charges which would later be levied on him by his fellow Americans. However, after months of haggling and insisting, Pound got on his way.

His first broadcast was in January of 1941, after which he was speaking an average of every three days. Although he chose his topics freely, his scripts were read by Italian censors first. He didn't seem to object, and they didn't seem to suppress very much. By October, the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service of the Federal Communications Commission was monitoring everything Pound said on the air.



Office Memorandum • UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI [redacted] DATE: 8/13/58

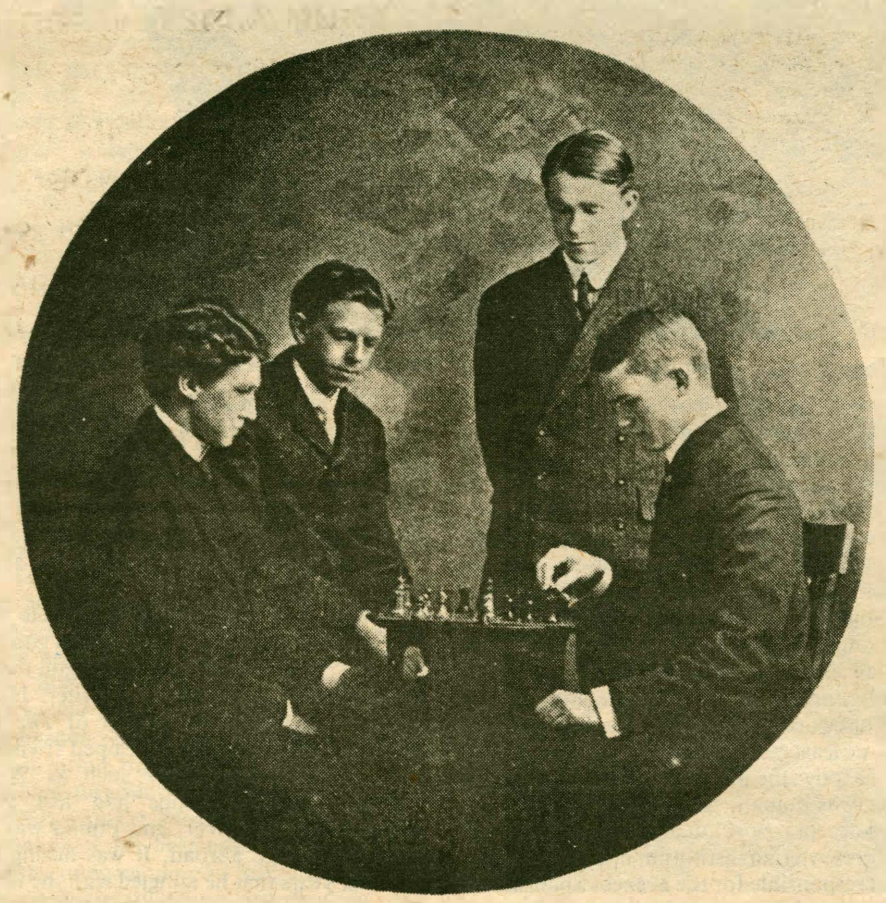
FROM: [redacted]

SUBJECT: EZRA POUND
TREASON

[redacted]

Recordings of the subject's broadcasts were turned over to the Industrial Records Division, National Archives, on 8/6/58. All other exhibit material has been destroyed. D[illegible]

From Pound's FBI file.



A young Pound (far left) enjoys a game of chess with Hamilton's 1905 team.

Several months before that, the State Department had informed the U.S. Embassy that Ezra Pound's passport visa would be extended for another six months only, and after that his return was limited to the U.S. Pound was aware of the passport restriction, but not the monitoring. He later received permission from the Italian government to stay there until the end of the war.

The broadcasts covered a range of topics as vast as his range of knowledge. One day he would speak out against the current state of democracy; the next he would praise E.E. Cummings, his favorite poet. He criticized Churchill, de Gaulle, Chiang Kai-shek, the London Times, and the Philadelphia Phillies. And, money and Jews were two themes which cropped up very often, sometimes together. Not only did he vary his topics, but his tongues. Sometimes he would be pedantic, sometimes furious. He used Southern drawls and Cockney accents, and mixed all these different styles within each speech. He spoke in English, and almost always broke into rage, peppering his words with heavy emphasis in many places. For each broadcast he received the equivalent of 17 American dollars. What he managed to save was given to his parents, who had joined him in Rapallo for their retirement . Additionally, he bought Italian government bonds, which were rendered worthless the day the regime collapsed. And then there were his two families.

When he first came to Italy he entered into a love affair with one Olga Rudge. She gave birth to their daughter Mary, within a few months of the birth of his son Omar by his wife. When the war broke out and the Italian military needed their seaside apartment for security reasons, the Pounds moved in with the Rudges. The two women alternated with the cooking chores. Ezra used to go over his scripts with both women, but Dorothy found them increasingly difficult to follow, so Olga took over that task.

□

He first got the idea for the broadcasts in late 1940. By this time the war had almost shut him off entirely from letters and newspapers from Allied countries. When a friend had brought him a radio in the early part of the year he had cursed the invention, but as he became more isolated from the other side he realized that the invention would at least disseminate his views, and perhaps enable him to hear others.

Broadcasting his own writings was not his only duty. He also wrote press releases for other broadcasters, created slogans for the Fascist regime, and helped organize a propaganda campaign. He began associating himself with a group of young dissidents, anarchist fascists, and he attended their meetings regularly.

Pearl Harbor marked a turning point in his career. He gave a broadcast that day that criticized a wide range of topics, and only until the next day did he discover that the Japanese had invaded the United States. He went to the home of Reynolds Packard, a U.S. correspondent stationed in Rome, with whom he had been friendly. Packard told him that the U.S. is now at war, and if Ezra were to stay he would be considered a traitor. The poet replied, "I don't see why fascism is contrary to American philosophy. I have nothing against the U.S., quite the contrary, I consider myself 100 percent American and a patriot. I am only against Roosevelt and the Jews who influenced him."

In defending his actions like he did that night, Pound was outlining his complex and seemingly contradictory views in one short sentence. For those who found his rationale difficult to comprehend in this instance, it would become even more difficult to understand during his imprisonment and hospitalization.

He did not resume broadcasting right away. Reports are ambiguous about his actions over the next few months. Some say that, despite what he told the Packards, he did try to go back to the U.S., going so far as to buy tickets for passage home and making arrangements for his belongings. He testified in court that the State Department in Rome was harassing him, and put him last on their list for priority exit. They denied this at his treason hearing.

Records show that Pound took to the microphone next at the end of January. Although the content of his broadcasts were always his own choice, he now really had free reign.

□

Rome Broadcasts Excerpts

DARKNESS, July 13, 1942

You are in black darkness and confusion. You have been hugger-muggared, and carom-shotted into a war, and you know NOTHING about it. You know NOTHING about the forces that caused it, or you know next to nothing.

I am in the agonized position of an observer who had worked 25 years to prevent it. And I am not the only observer who had so striven.

Given a little more knowledge, given the elimination of a small number of shysters, the war need not have happened.

LAST DITCH OF DEMOCRACY, October 2 1941 It's a DITCH all right. Democracy has been LICKED in France. The frogs were chucked into war AGAINST the Will of the people. Democracy has been licked to a frazzle in England where it never did get a look in ANYHOW. But even pseudo-democracy breaks down when a people is chucked into war against its will, and the Brits never VOTED Winston into the premiership. In fact WHEN DID they have an election?

Remember it is the government in England that decides WHEN to have an election. Think where we would be if Mr. Roosevelt could merely POSTPONE elections till he got ready to have one.

THE KEYS OF HEAVEN, June 8, 1942

I suppose if I go on talking to you kids LONG enough I will get something into your heads. If I go on poundin' from day to day, every day and every way, I will finally teach you kids why you got drug into the war (if you survive it), and when you know that you will know more than your fathers did by the end of the last one, that is, more than most of 'em ever discovered.

And I got to go back, and go over and over the same little table of facts same little table puttin' the dates on 'em clearly. And this war started in 1696, or say '94, when Mr. Paterson got the idea for the Bank of England. That is a scheme for gettin' rich, scheme whereby a few men were to get rich without workin', and by defraudin' the general public.

E.E. CUMMINGS EXAMINED, May 21, 1942

I have to go on tryin' to tell you. And I now tell you that your Mr. Cummings is a very great writer, I tell you he follows H. James, and Thoreau, and Whitman. I tell you he is the most intelligent man in America.

If that is an earful, TAKE it. I don't know what is to become of our educated intelligentsia, or whatever. An American, fullblooded American, writes a book in every way as BIG as the Apes of God or Ulysses. It gets some attention, it does not get nearly enough. You make a contribution to the world literature of tomorrow, and you pay very little attention to what happens right thaar under your noses.

GOLD: ENGLAND, No Date

DO YOU think that there is any basic, essential difference between a committee of kikes in LONDON betraying the United States of America and a gang of kikes in New York selling up England, and putting mortgages all over your island? Do you think that freedom and the roast beef of old England, or roast beef of old Argentine, consists in taking orders from a gang of Jews in New York? Potatoes and point [?] for yours, if potatoes, and point to where the roast beef had been or might have been.

UNIVERSITALITY, May 4, 1942

The Bolshevik anti-morale comes out of the Talmud, which is the dirtiest teaching that any race ever codified. The Talmud is the one and only begetter of the Bolshevik system.

And if there ARE any Christians in the United State of America, they would do well to consider Renan's warning. They would do well to consider the difference between the Greek and the Hebrew parts of the Bible.

AMERICA WAS INTENTIONS, February 26, 1942

The Honor of the United States of America is NOT concerned with becoming an arsenal.

The men who wintered at Valley Forge did not suffer those months of intense cold and hunger with the design, or in the hope that Pennsylvanie, Massachusetts, Virginia, the union of the colonies would one day be able to stir up wars betwen other countries in order to sell them munitions.

I don't want, the last thing I want, is that any harm should come to Uncle Sam's Army and Navy. The Navy is, some of it, gone where I can't much help it. The Army can get on all right if it stays where it ought to be, namely on the north American continent.

I certainly do NOT want American's young blood shed in an assinine attempt to wreck all European civilization.

'Your Alma Mater, however, is an old lady who has not always understood where you have been going, but she has always watched you with interest and pride if not always with understanding.'

The next phase of Pound's life began in September of 1943. The Allied armies prepared to invade Italy, and most active Romans prepared to leave. Not Pound. He continued broadcasting, still believing that he had to tell the world where they went wrong and that he was a loyal American. Nevertheless, the situation finally hit him, and he fled Rome, travelling 450 miles on foot and by train. He arrived at the home of his daughter's foster family (they had sent her away for safety) with

blistered feet. He was saved from the police when a wood cutter saw Ezra's deeply carved features and helped him escape. The poet was 58 years old.

Pound returned to the security of the isolated town of Rapallo to sit out the war, continuing with his writing, but not broadcasting. Perhaps he was aware that the U.S. was circulating a description and photograph of him all around Italy. If they were, he made no provisions for escape, although it was later rumored that after his capture he temporarily disappeared.

His capture came in the Spring of 1945, and after detention in an outdoor cage in Pisa, the war-weary writer was sent home. He was placed in jail, and after numerous examinations by four different doctors, he was declared unfit to stand trial for treason on the grounds of insanity. He was exhausted, mentally and physically. All those years of pouring out his soul in hopes that someone would get his message, ended in an insanity ward in a federal prison hospital in Washington D.C.

But the poet was not defeated. He continued to write, this time poetry which included his political views. His family visited often, as did many of his literary friends. His works were published, and in the early fifties he received a $1000 prize from the Library of Congress. It was the annual Bollington Prize in poetry, and the Fellows in American Letters of the Library of Congress chose Ezra Pound to be the winner in February of 1949. Controversy over the award followed, and ever since, the prize has been issued by Yale University instead of the Library of Congress.

By the late fifties an unorganized movement to free Ezra had begun. The years of rest did him good, but he was not ready to go home. Even Dag Hammarskoold, Secretary-General for the United Nations, pressed for his release.

□

He was discharged from the hospital on May 7, 1958. The treason charges were dropped April 18, 1958, more than twelve years after he was arrested. It took another two months for his passport problems to be worked out, and then he and his wife Dorothy left for Italy. Final destination: Rapallo.

It was a memorable day for everyone. Unlike his last visit, Pound did not get into an argument with anyone...In fact, Pound hardly said a word during the entire visit, and he was reported to have taken a vow of silence.

Ezra Pound was an old man in 1969—84 years old. With Olga Rudge he came back to the United States for a two week visit. His publisher was scheduled to receive an honorary degree the next week, from the very same school which honored Pound in a similar fashion some forty years previously. The day before the ceremony the publisher called up Austin Briggs, professor of English, to inform him that he would be arriving late and with a guest.

It was a memorable day for everyone. Unlike his last visit, Pound did not get into an argument with anyone. The only thing that came close was a tussle over his cane with the Brigg's young boy. In fact, Pound hardly said a word during the entire visit, and he was reputed to have taken a vow of silence. He said a few things, though, all of which Briggs remembers as though it were yesterday. Pound noted that the tennis court had been moved, and he apologized to Mrs. Briggs for 'being so much trouble,' recalled Austin Briggs. Pound shook hands with many of the undergraduates, and Briggs noted that when he had to climb a few large steps, he grabbed a hold of Briggs with the firmness of a man half his age. He did not receive a degree that day, but he was seated on the platform with the other honoraries. New York Times Columnist Russell Baker was scheduled to speak that day, and when he discovered that he was to share the platform with Ezra Pound he was stunned, and considered it an honor. In fact, this past summer, he mentioned the experience in one of his columns. Briggs recalls that word got out quickly of Pound's arrival, and the college was flooded with phone calls. The New York Times was desparately trying to reach Baker, but the columnist insisted he was on vacation and would not even answer the phone. The Times ended up sending a stringer. No interviews, however, were granted.

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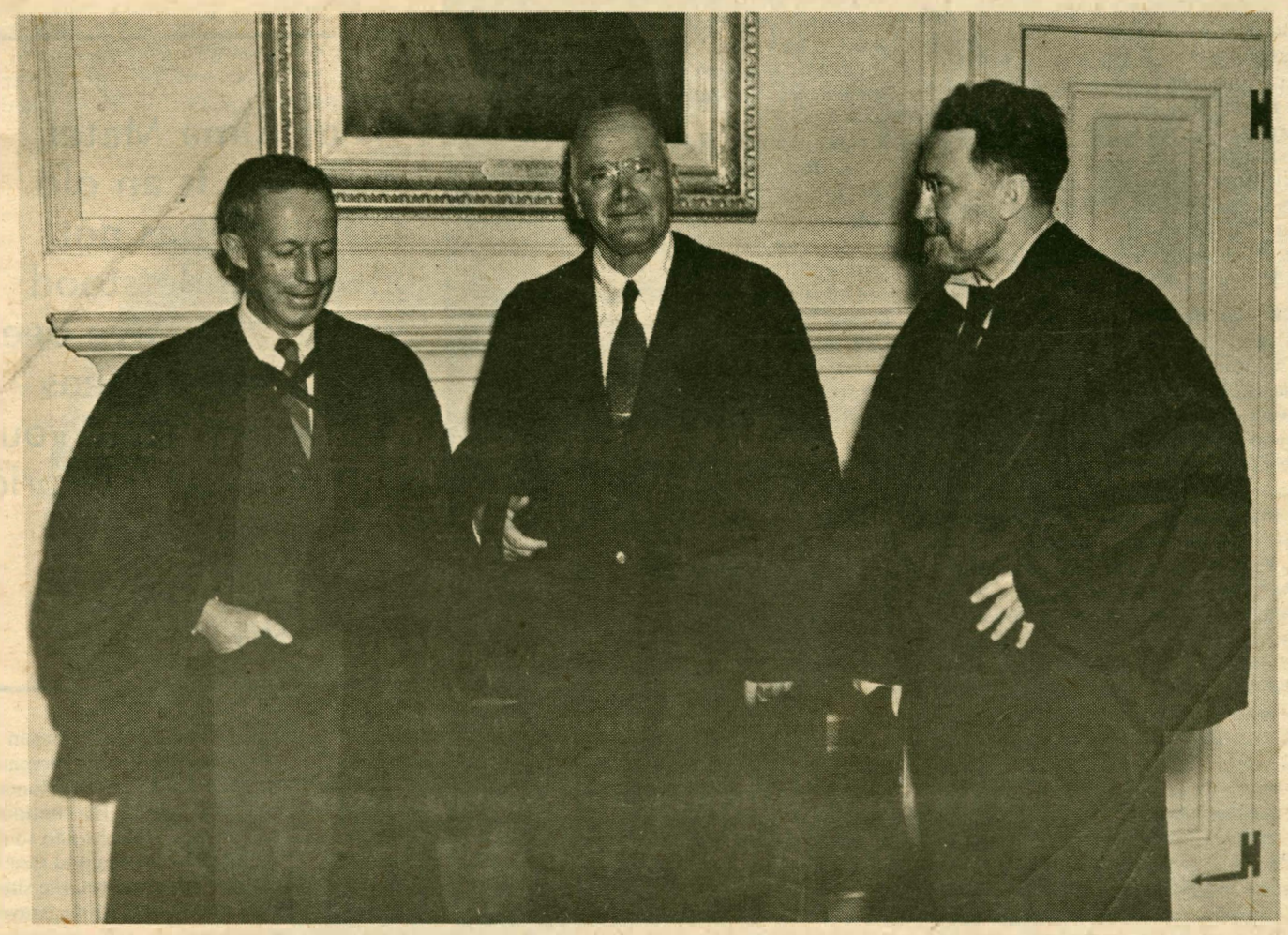
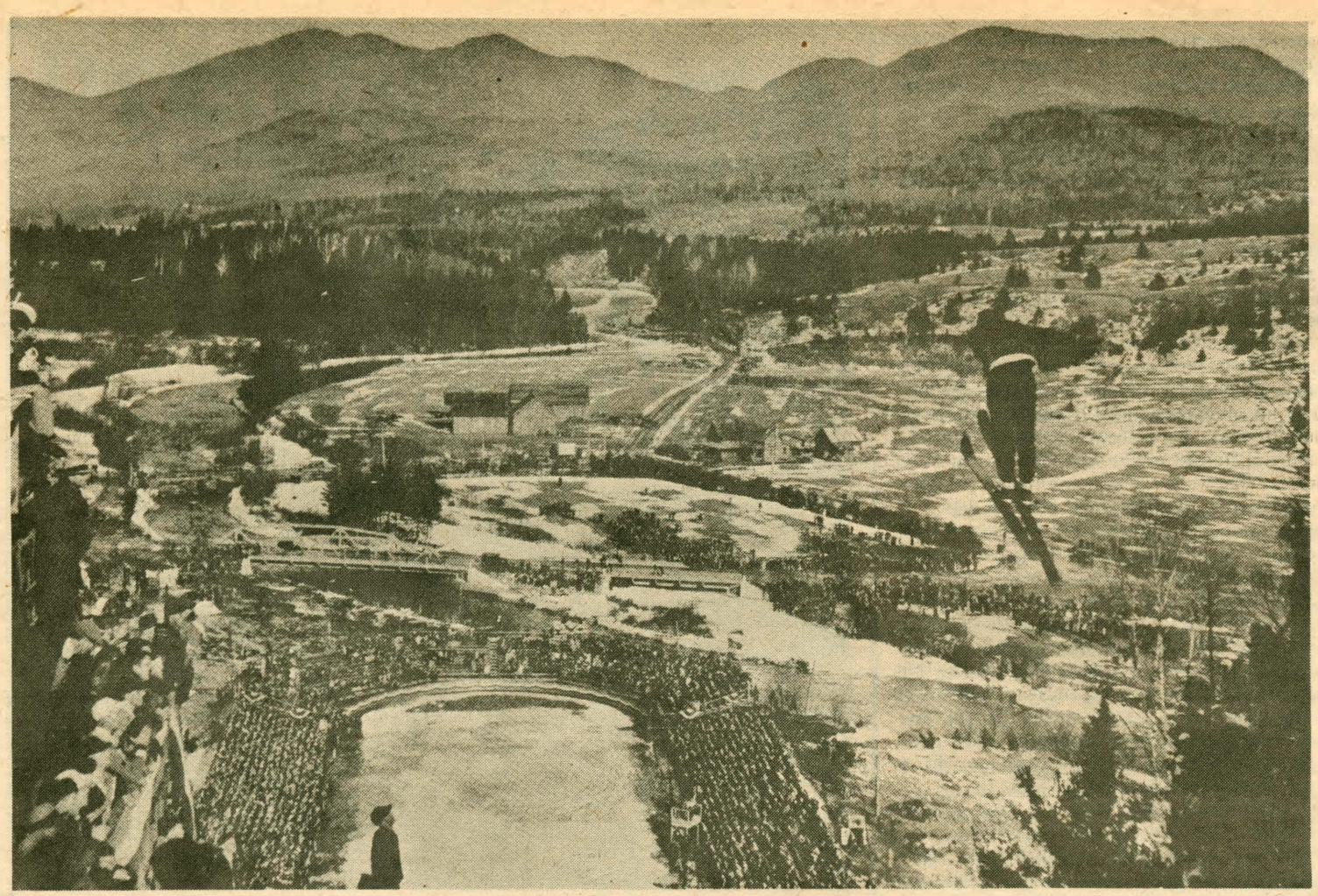
Friends of Ezra Pound might remark how sad it is that the poet devoted almost his entire adult life—some 65 years—to a cause which was never accepted by the majority of his fellow countrymen. Others might note that it was better off that he wasn't heard: for the cause for which Pound devoted himself was not only anti-American, but also prejudicial—the kind of bias which leads to the senseless destruction of entire races of people.

Pound was never tried for treason, and so, there will always be a question about his activities: whether or not he was really aware of what the consequences of his action were. One thing is sure: Ezra Pound was a great poet. and his works will remain an essential part of the history of twentieth century letters. But along with that, it is equally necessary to realize that the political ideals which stood behind his writings were the driving force of this brilliant and controversial figure. □□



Pound (right) with H.V. Kaltenborn (center) and E. Root Jr. after the famous confrontation at the 1939 commencement.



Lake Placid's Olympic Complex in 1932.

No Calm in Lake Placid

By Ward Lassoe

What does a town of 3,000 do with a $32 million Olympic village, suitable for housing 1800 young athletes, once all the competitors have packed their bags and left?

This was the problem facing Lake Placid, a resort community in the Adirondacks, which is scheduled to host the 1980 Winter Olympics. An unusual solution was found, though, but much of the public is not aware of it. As soon as the Olympic torch is extinguished, the Olympic Village will undergo a series of swift alterations and will ultimately be converted into a new federal prison.

At first, this appeared to be the answer to everyone's prayers. The town of Lake Placid was very receptive to the idea of being the site of the 1980 Winter Olympics. However, it wanted a productive use to be found for the Village after the Olympics ended because a collection of empty buildings wouldn't do much to help its troubled economy.

The federal government was willing to give the money needed for construction, but the Office of Management and Budget refused to sanction the funding unless a secondary use for the Village, which would beneficial to the federal government, was discovered.

The planned medium security facility, which would primarily house first time narcotic offenders form 18 to 25 years of age, seemed to satisfy both of these interests. It would pump an estimated $5-6 million into the economy of Lake Placid a year, and the federal government had been looking for a location to construct a new prison to alleviate the overcrowding which has been plaguing many of the existing facilities. The Olympic Committee also was pleased that the government would be paying (through the channel of the Federal Bureau of Prisons' budget) $22 million for housing construction costs. However, the protests over this apprently "perfect" solution soon started.

The first dissenting voice was that of the Criminal Justice Team for the New York State Conference of the United Church of Christ. Since that first objection, the New York State Conference of Churches and the National Moratorium on Prison Construction have also joined in the protest against what has been termed the Olympic Prison. An organization based in Syracuse called Stop the Olympic Prison (S.T.O.P.) has been formed for the sole purpose of stopping construction of the prison.

The major complaint which has arisen is over the fact that the prison site is 350 miles from New York City even though the majority of the inmates will be from that region. There have been several objections to the concept of taking them so far from their homes and so far from a major metropolitan area.

There is only one bus a day to Lake Placid, thereby necessitating an overnight stay for any visitors of the prisoners. This will be a severe economic restriction on many families since the inmates are expected to come from impoverished backgrounds. The point that the prison is located so far from a major urban area, according to critics, will be limiting in terms of social services and job training for convicts. Opponents are also quick to point out that this location is directly contrary to the Bureau of Prisons much-touted policy of establishing federal prisons close to the homes of inmates and to a major urban region.

The federal government has responded to this two-prong attack. They proposed a shuttle bus to bring up visitors to Lake Placid who cannot afford the prohibitive travelling costs. Such a bus is now in operation at other correctional facilities. They also used the somewhat unsupported argument that the job training opportunities of Lake Placid are just as good as those of New York City. The distance from New York City isn't that great anyway, they claim, when it is considered that prisoners from N.Y.C. are presently being incarcerated as far away as Mississippi because of overcrowding in Northeastern jails.

The contention that a prison violates the spirit of solidarity, happiness, and brotherhood which are associated with the Olympic games has often been raised. There have already been some international repercussions to the U.S. government's plan. A representative from Sweden has stated that their country will not participate in the Olympics if the U.S. carries through with the conversion of the Olympic Village into a jail.

A Dutch company has filmed a report on the planned "secondary use" which is now being shown all over Europe. Finally, Moscow, the host of the 1980 Summer games, is gloatingly boasting that their site will be transformed into a modern living center for the underprivileged after the Olympics. One opponent of the prison posed the rhetorical question as to what international reaction would have been if it was the U.S.S.R. instead of the U.S. who was turning the home of the Olympics into a prison for young people.

One of the major arguments used by the proponents of the Olympic Prison is the 200-300 jobs it will supply to the Lake Placid residents. They are badly needed in the community plagued by 20 percent unemployment. Opponents are quick to call attention to the volatile situation, though, which would be formed by hiring all the guards from the Lake Placed community. Its similarity to Attica, with small town whites guarding primarily

Ward Lassoe '82 is a reporter for the Spectator.

minority inmates from large cities, is only too apparent. The federal government's willingness to work with such a risky combination seems somewhat foolhardy, according to detractors.

Another aspect of this project which has come into question is whether the prison or the Olympic housing is the actual secondary use for the site. The critics of the prison have assimilated some convincing evidence to show that the government is more concerned with constructing a correctional facility than Olympic dormitories.

Because the prison is officially a "secondary," use, it was (conveniently) not necessary to go through the usual Congressional channels to get approval for the funds. The money which was obtained was funneled into the Federal Bureau of Prisons' budget. The basic architecture plans which were used are identical to ones used to build a youth prison in Tennessee. All of these facts seem to point out that the federal government is more concerned about the prison than the Olympic housing.

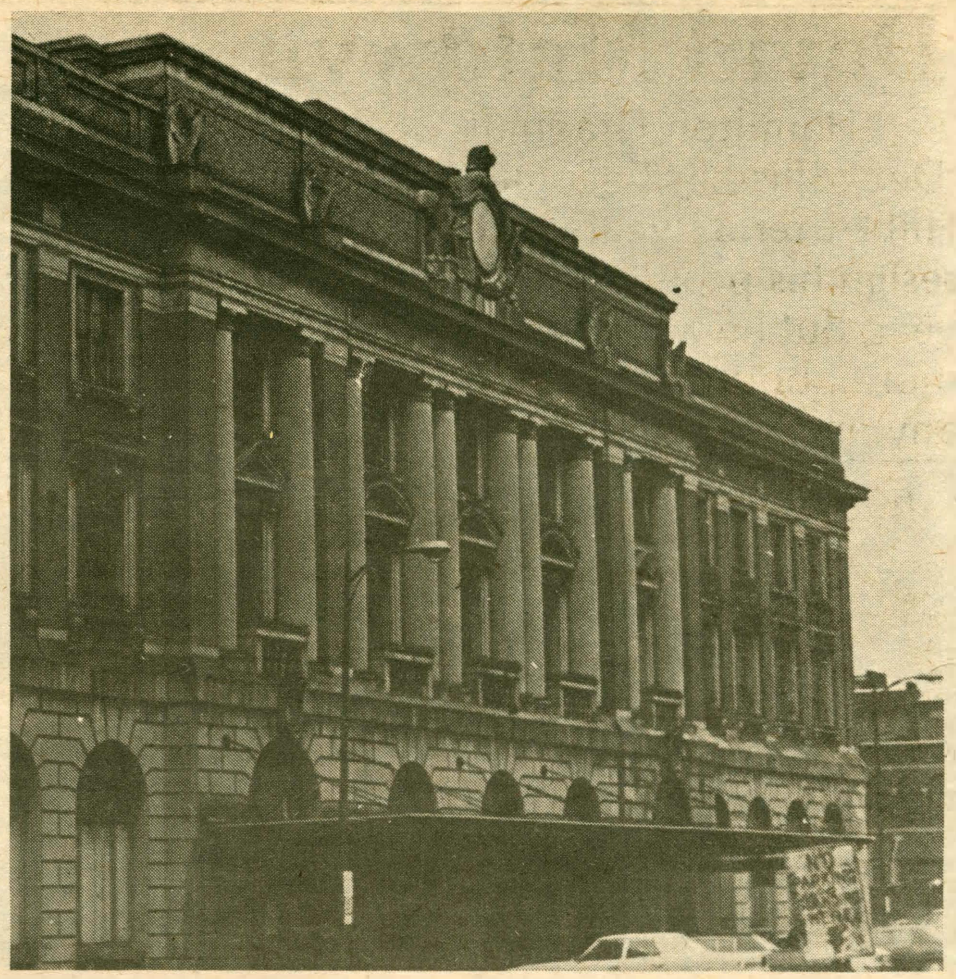
The specifics of the rooms also seem to support this idea. Two athletes with all their equipment will be housed in a small, virtually windowless room. It is interesting to note that if the prison is completed, only one inmate will have to live in that same room. The only furnishings provided are a bunk bed, a chair, and a sink. These amenities seem much more like a cell than a dormitory room.

Complaints have also come from another source. Lake Placid residents argue that the issue of the Olympic Prison was hidden from the public by Congress until it was too late to stop it. They report that the Bureau of Prisons made no effort to contact the residents even though their plans directly involved the community. Finally, they feel that there is an environmental question. The construction thus far has left an ugly scar on the forests in their area.

The primary weakness of the argument of the opponents of the prison is their lack of a viable alternative use for the Olympic Village. The one which is most often proposed is a permanent training center for young Olympic hopefuls, something which the Olympic Committee agrees is needed in the Northeast. The main objection to this is that the site is too large and extensive for a training center. Also the $1 million security system would be wasted. The extensive arrangement is being built to avoid a tragedy such as the one which occurred at the 1972 Munich Olympics when members of the Israeli team were killed.

The question of the Olympic Prison will soon come before Congress. The leaders of S.T.O.P are optimistic about the outcome, but if the decision should not go in their favor, they will again renew their protests. Anyone interested in this matter should write Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier, 2227 Rayburn Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515, concerning their opinions on the Olympic Prison.□□

A geographic view of Lake Placid.


Union Station will smile again.

Utica: Boom Town in '80?

Most people know that Lake Placid is the home of the 1980 Winter Olympics, but what many people may not realize is that Utica will, in effect, be the home away from home for the games. There have been a series of meetings since the beginning of last year between the city and the Lake Placid committee in an attempt to coordinate their efforts. City officials are anticipating the Olympics to be the remedy for the economic troubles which have been plaguing Utica.

There will be several factors contributing to Utica's importance during the games. All of the the hotel accomodations in Lake Placid are reserved for athletes' families, members of the press, and Olympic officials, thereby forcing the 51,700 spectators a day to find accomodations elsewhere. The roads all around Lake Placid will be closed to regular traffic, and as a result, those same spectators will have to find an alternative means of transportation to Lake Placid.

A large Sheraton Hotel is being constructed in downtown Utica to help accomodate the 10,000 people a day who are expected to go through Utica during the Olympics. The city received a federal grant to assist with the building costs. The hotel is expected to be open for business by September.

Utica's Union Station is currently undergoing a $2 million renovation in preparation for the Olympics. It was originally a county project, but now the state and the Economic Development Administration are helping with the funding. Among the repairs are the refinishing of the facade, building a new roof, and fixing the heating. The old bus garage in from of the station is being demolished (a new one is being constructed in North Utica) which will improve access to the station. There will now be a convenient circular driveway. Completion of this project is expected by Labor Day.

The station has also been designated the main terminal of the Olympics by Olympic officials. The Adirondack Railroad is instituting service to Lake Placid which will originate in Utica. The restrictions on travel will probably make this train service the easiest and most accessible method of getting to the Olympics.

The end of the Olympics will not be the end of Utica's involvement with Lake Placid. Train service will be continued for people who wish to ski or snowmobile up in the Adirondack area. City officials also hope to get the business of people in later years who will be visiting the Olympic site to see such attractions as the bobsled runs and the ski jumps.

Local business is expected to be helped greatly by getting the marketing rights to various Olympic souvenirs. Tourists are also anticipated to spend quite a deal of money on such things as food and gas. Tourist booths are being set up at the thruway exit and in the train station to help promote various special events which will be taking place in Utica during the Olympics.

Utica received national coverage when Olympic officials chose two racoons in the Utica Zoo as the mascots for the 1980 Olympics. They will appear on posters as well as other Olympic memorabilia.

It seems impossible that an event which is taking place a few hundred miles from Utica could have such an impact on the city. However, if the the Olympics are packaged correctly, they may be just the economic cure that Utica has been looking for.

WARD LASSOE

David Maldwyn Ellis

A Hamilton Graduate of the Class of 1938, 'Doc' Ellis has become a landmark on College Hill. After 33 years of teaching, 'Doc' will resign his position as a full-time professor next year, but he will always be the man who knows more about New York State history than anyone else.

By Douglas Sgarro

If one were to write a history of Hamilton College, a major chapter would be devoted to the life of David Maldwyn Ellis. A member of the Class of 1938, Ellis has taught history at Hamilton for 32 years. His work and his devotion to teaching undergraduates have become inextricably entwined. Indeed, studying history under the capable auspices of Ellis, P.V. Rogers Professor of American History, has become an enjoyable tradition of the Hill.

Ellis is emblematic of the prototypical eastern college professor. Despite his many years teaching, he radiates an undying enthusiasm for communicating his field of study. Students appreciate his concern and accessibility. Nevertheless, Ellis finds time for personal scholarly pursuit. Though he is widely recognized as one of Hamilton's better instructors, Ellis has maintained an outstanding level of professional growth.

Since 1957, when he wrote his award winning *History of New York State,* Ellis has authored seven books along with countless magazine and encyclopedia articles. He is considered the foremost authority of New York history, and was chosen by the government to write the bicentennial history of the state. A tireless historian, Ellis expects his latest work, *New York State and City,* to appear in late January.

Class with Professor Ellis is an experience not to be missed. His lectures consist of pertinent factual information entwined with amusing anecdotes. Ellis believes in humanizing history, in developing an idea beyond the dryness of black and white text. "Many of us tend to idealize history's greatest figures," he stated, "It is useful to realize that flawed people can make contributions to society. George Washington was not just the man we see on a pedestal in the park. He is rather the George Washington with steel teeth that hurt and the George Washington that could barely read or spell very well. It is important to realize that the great weren't necessarily great in every respect."

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In examining history, Ellis ascribes to a broad philosophical approach. A student of Paul Wallace Gates, who in turn studied under Fred Murch, a student of Frederick Jackson Turner, Ellis admits to "a touch of Turnerism" in his background. He considers himself a multi-causationalist, rejecting historical simplification. "I don't believe in examining history in terms of Marxist ideology or New Left doctrine or any singular cause," he said. "History is a complex subject. Things come about through a large number of factors. I'm a little suspicious of people who have neat, simple explanations of history."

"In my generation," stated Ellis, "historians collected all the information they could and tried to make sense out of it. However, every time one makes a selection of information, he makes a judgement or an ideological choice. History tended to be largely political, highlighting wars, administrations and battles. Today, history is a broader field of study, encompassing social, intellectual, demographic and even quantitative thought. In studying history, one must maintain a number of perspectives."

Needless to say, Ellis strongly believes in the merit of his field of study. History, he believes, reveals the mistakes of past generations. "Human nature doesn't change that much over time," said Ellis, "Thus, historians are never quite as surprised as others over skullduggery such as Watergate—it's all happened before." Nevertheless, Ellis does not find cause for despair. Certain individuals, he believes, have successfully changed the course of history.

"Though the first abolitionists were just voices in the wilderness, eventually their ideas became less frightening and reform took place," he stated. "Individuals are capable of making a difference, even if it's not in an immediate sense. Every generation has to keep on meeting its problems or we'll slip back into a state of decadence."

According to Ellis, throughout history the conventional public image of great individuals is usually a correct one. However, he noted that historians tend to build up or idealize outstanding reformers. "Historians should do a little more for the Elihu Roots or the Alexander Hamiltons," he said, "There ought to be a greater historical appreciation of the role of constructive conservatives, people who hold the fabric of society together and change it in a constructive way. I believe that they're often short-changed."

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Next year, 1979-80, will mark the final year that David Ellis will teach history at Hamilton College. "I don't think it'll be very different after I retire," he stated. "I'll be in the library every day just like Digger Graves, researching some new topic. I feel very fortunate to have taught at a selective institution like Hamilton. It's always refreshing to have students like Ray Mohl or David Berner (two prominent historians) come up with books of their own. That's not to say we're manufacturing mini-historians. I get a kick out of watching some kid out of north country, unpolished and unsophisticated, mature over a three or four year period. It always amazes me what some of these characters get themselves into." The kick, many Hamilton alumni agree, is a mutual feeling.

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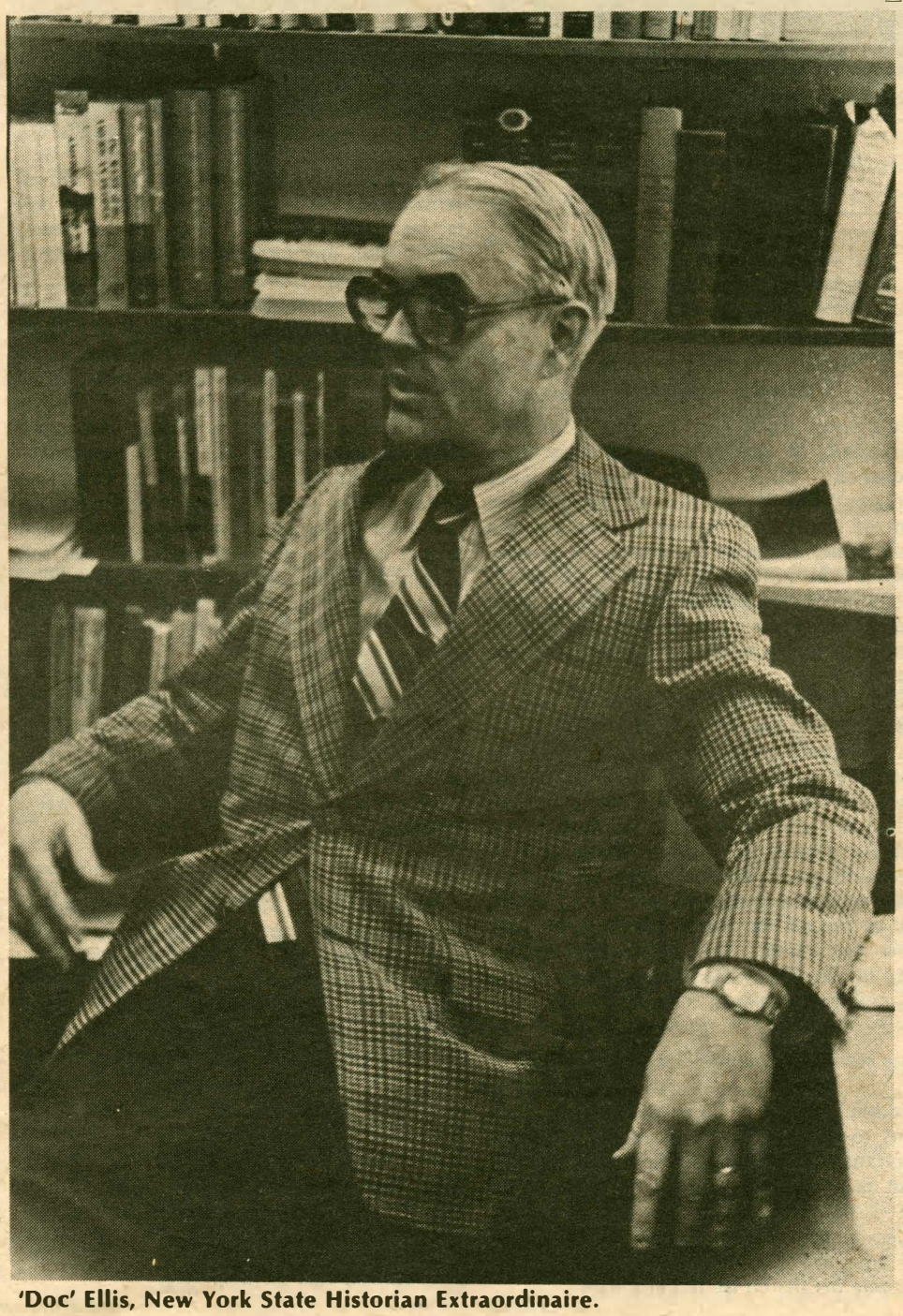

'Doc' Ellis, New York State Historian Extraordinaire.

Douglas Sgarro '81 has written for the Specatator for the past year. He was recently appointed News Editor.

Neil Armstrong.

Technology and science have reduced the importance of the lone achiever. But, there are

Heroes of This Modern Age

By George Teel

Come let us mock at the great
That had such burdens on the mind
And toiled so hard and late
To leave some monument behind,
Nor thought of the leveling wind.

-W.B. YEATS
"Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen"

In a poem about "the Troubles" following the failure of the Easter Rebellion, Yeats declared that the times were "dragon-ridden."Unfortunately, the guardian saint of the Irish is known for dealing with lesser game, and sixty years later the country remains in an unhappy state. Here, in Ireland's colony, it often seems we are suffering from similar troubles, when "The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity."

Commentators often point out the lack of conviction and genuine leadership in this country, while pollsters attempt to gauge the post-Watergate disillusionment with politicians which extends even to children. More generally, they argue that a new shortage faces us: *we have no heroes.* Well, some Hamilton professors disagree with this gloomy evaluation. While recognizing the pressures today which tend to prevent the rise of heroic figures and erode past legends, nevertheless they believe that "heroism" in various forms is needed, exists, and is recognized.

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"One man with courage makes a majority."
-ANDREW JACKSON

Technology is the Bane of Heroism. This seems to be the message some sociologists and historians read: complexity and specialization result in committees instead of Renaissance men, scientific "task forces" instead of solitary inventors, cautious corporate boards instead of daring entrepreneurs, or even atomic bombs and missiles instead of dashing generals. Professor Richard Suttmeier, chairman of the Government Department, stated that a hero is often someone regarded as "omnicompetent." "There is a relationship between the lack of heroes and the complexity of society...no one can be omnicompetent. Presidents are more and more limited in power and competence because the environment is more complex and intractable."

Suttmeier, asked whether heroes are valuable, replied that "on balance I am more skeptical than supportive, but we need more people to inspire us toward the common good. It is a thin edge between (this) and fanaticism, but we need a public figure of some sort." Suttmeier's office is adorned with a picture of Neil Armstrong, but his admiration is for the collective effort that put a man on the moon, rather than any hero worship per se. Armstrong's feat represents "cooperation to achieve a very complicated task;" it is certainly a giant leap from a world-wide hero like Lindbergh ("The Lone Eagle") to the massive organization monitoring and directing Armstong's every step.

The obvious question is whether it is possible to have an organization as a hero. Suttmeier replied that "some people get turned on by the Knicks or the Steelers...there might be profound sociological implications since you cannot imitate a group. Professional football is so popular because its an organized activity taken to a high degree of perfection and achievement. It serves as a surrogate for an age when heroes lack."

However, Suttmeier, while commenting that "heroes are not a major part of my life,' did offer Albert Schweitzer as "sort of a hero..a combination of intelligence and achievement. In his humanitarian commitment, he gave up success as a doctor or a musician. There was a selflessness in his acts..."

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Fumio Kodama, visiting associate professor of government, concurred for the most part with Suttmeier, but also offered a new hero-model capable of existing within society's complexity. "In a complex, technological society the person who has very strong personal expertise cannot be a hero...therefore a person who is a skillful organizer, a manager of technology to meet peoples' needs [will be the new hero]. My image is of a person who has a sound knowledge of technology and explores the people's needs, matching the two sides...it's no easy task. Constructing a nuclear submarine is a difficult but straighforward task, while applying science and technology to the urban situation is a very difficult task."

Asked about the possiblity of charismatic figures in such a context, Kodama commented that "It's quite true that there is a tremendous amount of information. Everyone can know the defects of a person...while people saw only perfection in Kennedy and Washington, once [their flaws] were exposed the criteria becomes not perfection as humans but what they've done for society." In addition, the new hero-manager can coexist with a "charismatic idol figure used to unite the people."

Kodama offered as an example of the new mold of hero Saburo Okita, who has recently drawn attention in the *New York Times* as a possible consultant for China's modernization. A key figure in the post-war development of Japan, he is a "conditional" hero to Kodama: "He was not the sole figure in the development of the economy...and is not popular among the youth" (he was defeated running for office), but "if he succeeds [in China] it would make him a hero in some ways."

One method in which technology undermines Hero-worship is the greatly increased access to information which it affords. Television, as we have heard countless times, made Nixon's appearence in his debates with Kennedy an important issue, brought the decidedly unheroic images of Vietnam direct to our living rooms, and ensured that Woody Hayes' transgressions would not go unnoticed. The press, which once exercised great imagination in idealizing such legends as Babe Ruth, now wishes its reporters to be razor keen investigative "Woodsteins." In addition, the mass media may simply overwhelm us with, well, masses of data, and have produced an audience desiring constant novelty.

Professor of Speech Warren Wright believes that people often admire not leaders, but celebrities. "Our heroes...are not those demonstrating admirable traits, but those who are most visible. We don't admire people with virtues we wish we had, but merely those with the ability to get attention. What a scathing commentary if true: we get the hots for those who get attention and we wish we could do the same. This is worse than a shortcut to ideals,

'In a complex technological society the person who has very strong personal expertise cannot be a hero...'

George Teel '79, whose hero is St. George, will graduate from Hamilton this May and continue his search for more heroes.

it's a substitution of the worship of appearences for that of substance."

While we may admire someone's acting or musical skills, this cannot be equated with skills such as "courage, compassion, pride, sympathy, and self-reliance," Wright continued. "Human virtues have a result we can see, a result which enhances the human condition, and/or virtues are admirable because they help the individual possessing them to face life. This is my hero because he confronts the circumstances of his life in a way I wish I could, in a way which makes life better for others...with a dignity I wish I had."

Wright also commented on the dangers of the sheer volume of information. "Mere happy visibility" becomes an end in a "world of rapidly rising and falling stars...there are so many draws on our attention. How can a man with a serious cause compete with 7-Up and roll-on deodorants? How can you and I compete...so we reward and admire those who succeed and are seen."

The tidal wave of information could seemingly not only wash away all but "performers," but also preclude the existence of lasting, bigger than life idols. If, as one writer says, "The need is for figures both grand *and* distant," how can a hero survive? Can we enshrine a President when we are conscious of the fact that he suffers from hemorrhoids?

Wright replies that "I don't give a damn that Jimmy Carter has hemorrhoids. A hero has to be removed...as information increases and mystery recedes; the person is likely to be less heroic. But I find it unacceptable that we can know too much. For some of us, if we know the humanity, some of the weaknesses (not too egregious), and they are genuine heroes, then they possess our weaknesses but make virtues possible and possess strengths we wish we had. I have found one of the greatest access points to the historical Jesus is not the divine but the human qualities, the awareness that He must have been pooped at night. The people are tired at nights, too, but now the strength of the historical Jesus is something to be emulated...the qualities are made possible."

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Professor of Philosophy Russell Blackwood also comented that there has been "a burst of information about people. How little people in Clinton knew about Lincoln when he was alive compared to what I know about Carter now." Asked if we are faced with a choice between cynicism and selective blindness toward current heroic figures, Blackwood replied that "We can afford to be less juvenile about our heroes and accept them with their wants in a more mature way. The contemporaries of Washington made him just unreal; no one could be that heroic, and in a way we are in a better position now. The increase in information creates a possible problem: nobody admires anyone. It also creates a possible advantage: an informed, mature admiration is a tremendous gain."

Robert Simon, associate professor of philosophy, believes that skepticism "applies to figures in the public arena, [but not to] a teacher, teammate, a friend down the block, because we can actually see that reasons for skepticism don't apply. In areas close to our lives, we do have heroes."

A related issue is the conscious creation of heroes as a way of inculcating values and idealism in children. Blackwood views this as "manipulating children...there is too much of this already. Building figures to follow is manipulation, not education. It's not even good parenting—in the long run it's destructive politics."

Simon belives that "people should be critical in selecting heroes...maintaining their critical faculties and autonomy. There is a difference between heroes and blind hero-worship. The happy medium between cynicism and blindness exists in the everday lack of cynicism." In public affairs, however, Simon believes that it is precisely because of general cynicism that people "blindly switch over to unreasoning adulation."

Simon states that his definition of heroism is "intellectual courage and great achievements in the face of adversity." Heroes are "people who've had the courage to stick to their convictions under pressure and follow arguments where they lead rather than sticking to preconceived notions." Simon's example of such a man is Socrates, and to a degree Bertrand Russel.

Blackwood's definition is very similar, "the display of heroic fortitude under forlorn circumstances," and illustrates it with an example borrowed from the German philosopher Jaspers. The heroic quality is seen in the distinction between Gallileo and a fifteenth century philosopher named Bruno. Both were brought up on charges of heresy; Galileo recanted of his assertion that the earth circled the sun. He was not heroic, "nor should he have been, since there was no sense in being burned over a fact." Bruno, however, had stated that "men should be free to enquire," and was burnt for heroically standing by his proposition. Bruno was a hero for maintaining his principle. Blackwood sees a similar sort of heroism in the case of the *New York Times* reporter Farber.

"There were giants in the earth in those days...mighty men which were of old, men of renown."

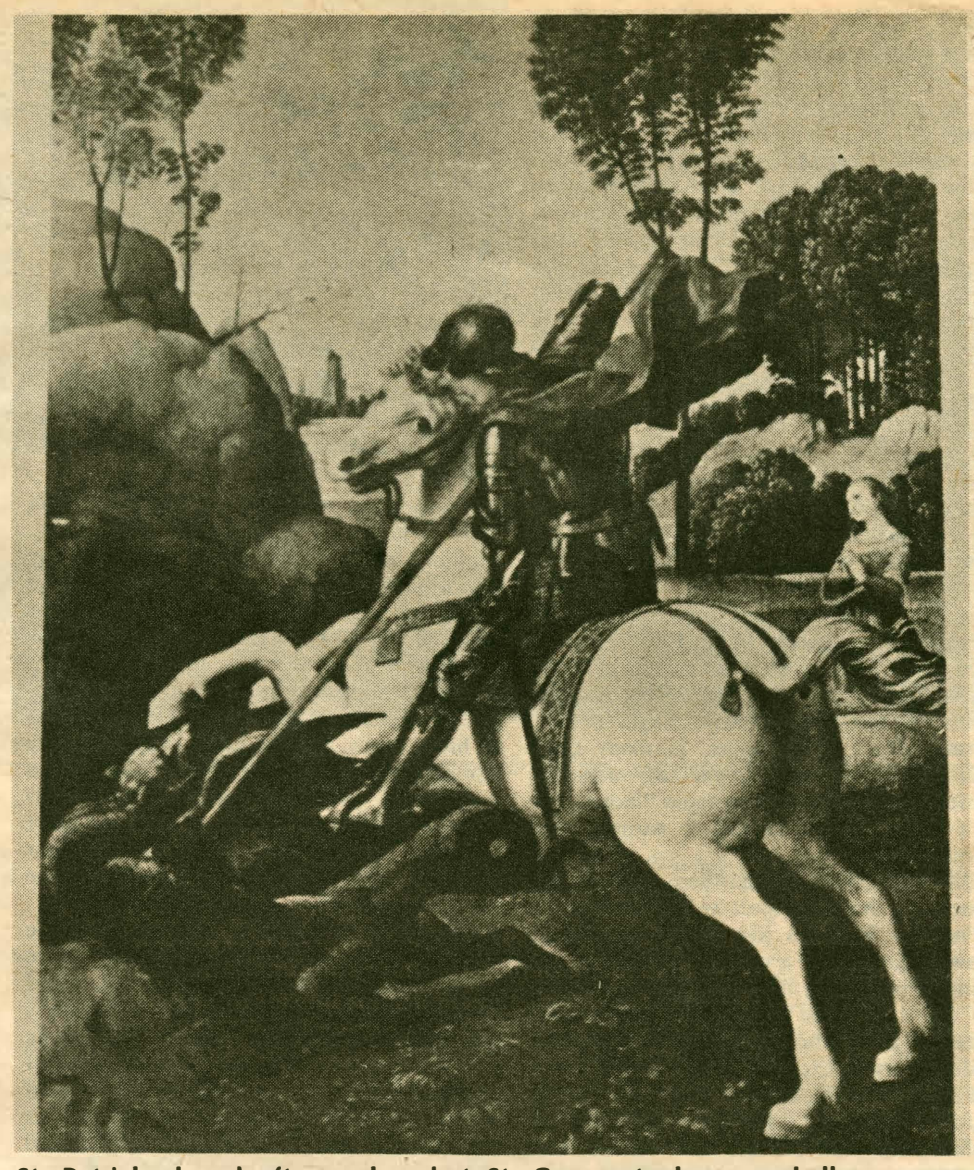
-GENESIS 6:4

□

The popular hero is a creature of modernity, a Protean figure whose whole aspect changes completely as each new generation lays hold upon him. Heroes are created by popular demand, sometimes out of the scantiest materials, or none at all...(such as) the apple that William Tell never shot, the ride that Paul Revere never finished, the flag that Barbara Frietchie never waved...

—G.W. JOHNSON
American Heroes and Hero Worship

Professor of English Frederick Wagner considers himself a Romantic, and defines a hero as a man (or woman) with "extraordinarily clear perceptions of himself and the world around him, and a sense of an ideal to aspire toward and the courage to not let worldy fortune impede him in attaining that ideal."



St. Patrick chased after snakes, but St. George took on a challenge more befitting an Englishman. Although the Vatican summarily removed both heroes from its calendar, they still inspire loyalty as local boys who made good.

'There are so many draws on our attention. How can a man with a serious cause compete with 7-Up and roll-on deodorants?...So we reward and admire those who succeed and are seen.'

While most of the faculty members interviewed had some difficulty in naming a hero, Wagner's comes quickly to mind since he is writing a biography of him. Bronson Alcott (father of Luisa May) "had a vision of what a teacher could be, and in an era (1830's) when education was regarded as something to be made as painful as possible, and learning was by rote memorization, Alcott insisted that what was important was to find out what was in the child's mind and bring it forth, rather than impress the teacher's notions on him." In 1839, Wagner adds, Alcott admitted a black to his school and refused to dismiss her, even though this caused the eventual closing of his school.

Wagner also holds Adlai Stevenson to be "very much the kind of hero I described", a man who, though moving in political circles, was a diplomat and not a politician. He never let expediency get the better of conscience."

□

Professor of History David Ellis began his discussion of heroism by commenting on the 1960's "fad of anti-heroism." This reaction against button-down collars, Eagle Scouts, Horatio Alger, Wall Street, in many cases became the "embodiment of negative virtues," but Ellis now sees some "indications of a return to old-fashioned, earnest, ambitious values."

Ellis went on to say that there is a need for heroes, and that "I suspect we have as many as we've ever had—no age has a monopoly. [However], there is a certain cynicism in ths country, perhaps a little less than five years ago. Cynicism is just as shallow as over romanticizing." Ellis, who is working on a seventh grade history text, commented that "at a certain age I have no objection to a little 'Fourth of July Patriotism.' Later on we can be more sophisticated and discuss our sinners and pressures on our leaders. At the seventh grade level we shouldn't go out of our way to print nasty little facts, usually unimportant. There is a need to inculcate a rough kind of patriotism."

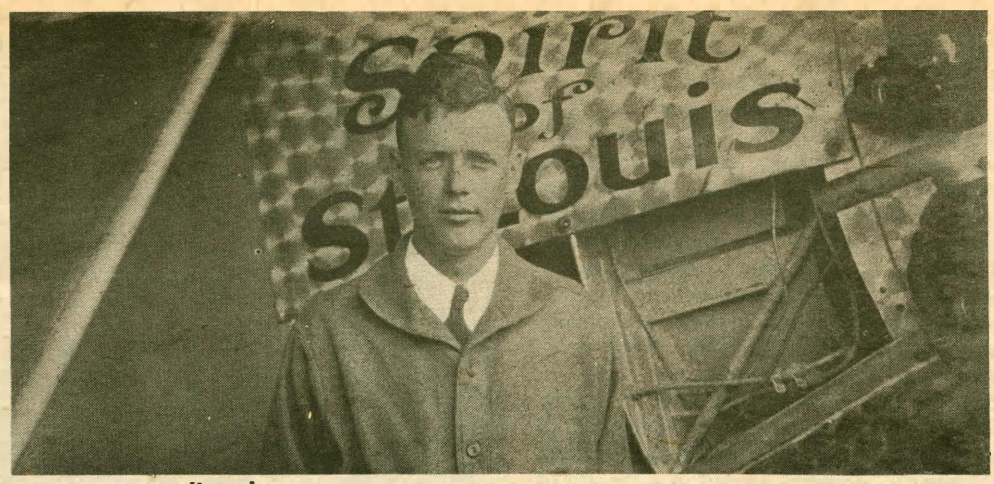
Offering Washington and Lincoln as genuine heroes, "men of integrity who surmounted real difficulties," Ellis sees "very few great *and* good men in a classical, saintly sense, such as Alfred the Great or Saint Louis. We tend to think of heroes as terribly aloof...but there are everyday people who face pretty tough obstacles. A widow raising and educating four or five kids may be more heroic than a man going to the South Pole in some ways. Every person knows a few 'saints.'"

Ellis also noted the need to balance the current debunking of heroes: "Society and youngsters need heroes to look up to...I wouldn't hide, and wouldn't drag out less-than-great details just to be cynical. Leaders make a pilgrimmage through a minefield and make mistakes. Everyone is guilty of pride and other failures, and we must measure them by how much good they do and not by their casual slips. Eleanor Roosevelt, whom I admire very much, must have been a tough person to live with."

"Show me a hero and I will write you a tragedy."
-F. SCOTT FITZGERALD
"Notebooks"

If there is a decline in the worship of sublime idols, some would see this as a healthy phenomenon: one psychologist writes that "We're a lot less naive than we used to be. At one time we needed heroes. We didn't value ourselves very highly...In the past a hero was often someone involved in a black-and-white controversy that the majority of the people saw as one-sided."

As new histories for school children emphasize impersonal, economic forces, some also feel compelled to point out flaws in past heroes: Jefferson was a hypocritical slave owner, Franklin Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy were philanderers, etc. But these



Charles A. Lindbergh

criticisms often seem vastly out of proportion and sometimes approach preciosity. Washington's cherry tree fable was created by a minister for moral instruction, and even if we reject such silly fabrications it is no cause for cynicism. We all know that General Grant was often drunk, but we may forget that when someone complained of this to Lincoln he proposed to send a barrel of the same whiskey to all his generals; it is the deeds and ideals they represent which could be accentuated, not an exaggerated version of personal faults. Ellis notes that Grant was one of the worst presidents, but perhaps still a hero as he fought to complete his memoirs (as a source of income for his family) while dying of cancer.

Despite their faith in Marxist scientific history, in the U.S.S.R. top leaders have personally taken a hand in the resurrection and burial of historical heroic figures, and there is a preoccupation in both Moscow and Peking with the creation and instant popularization of peasant/worker heroes. Heroes are taken serious in their socializing value and as generators of patriotism. Faced with the Nazi onslaught, Stalin discovered that such ephemeral conceptions as dialectic materialism would not stimulate patriotic fervor. Formerly disgraced figures such as the Tsarist Field Marshal Kutuzov were rehabilitated into shining herodom and once again played a role in defending their homeland.

The numerous figures, once heroes, now consigned to the Legion of Debunkees and Myths, obviously still have some power of inspiration for many. Ten years ago a researcher at the Vatican announced that two hundred saints were to be downgraded or dropped, including my namesake the dragon slayer and such favorites as St. Valentine, St. Nicholas, St. Patrick, and St. Christopher. St. Christopher's debunking proved particularly upsetting to many, but heroes can be hard to kill; Art Buchwald announced that Chris would probably go on protecting travellers because he's "that kind of guy." Many of our heroes should be placed in perspective, but without any cynical denials of the desire for heroism and the ideals behind the men. Historical accuracy should provide links of humanity, not sneering estrangement. The sages of the Hill would undoubtedly agree that the admiration of heroic qualities need not be equated with moralistic simple mindedness.

Mock mockers after that
That would not lift a hand maybe
To help good, wise, or great
To bar that foul storm out, for we
Traffic in mockery.
-W.B. YEATS (Ibid)

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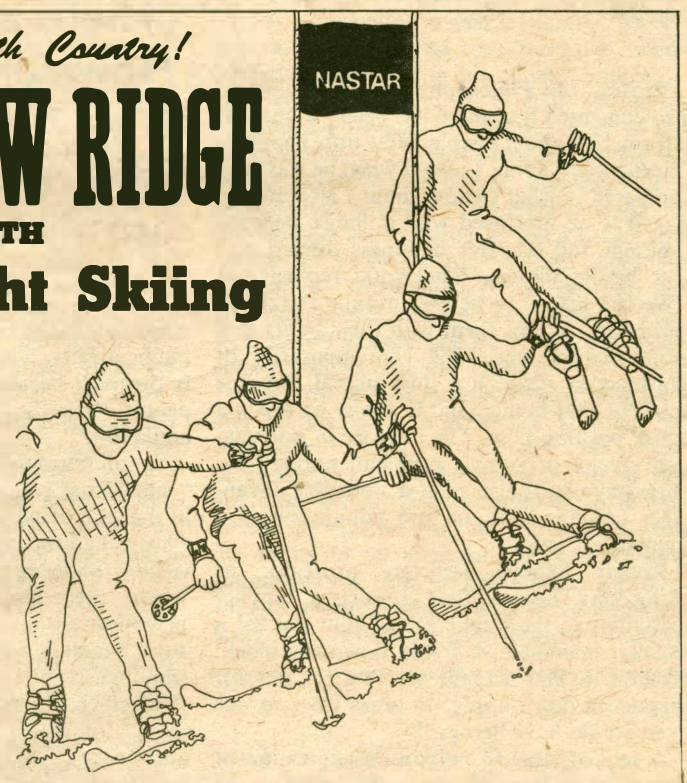

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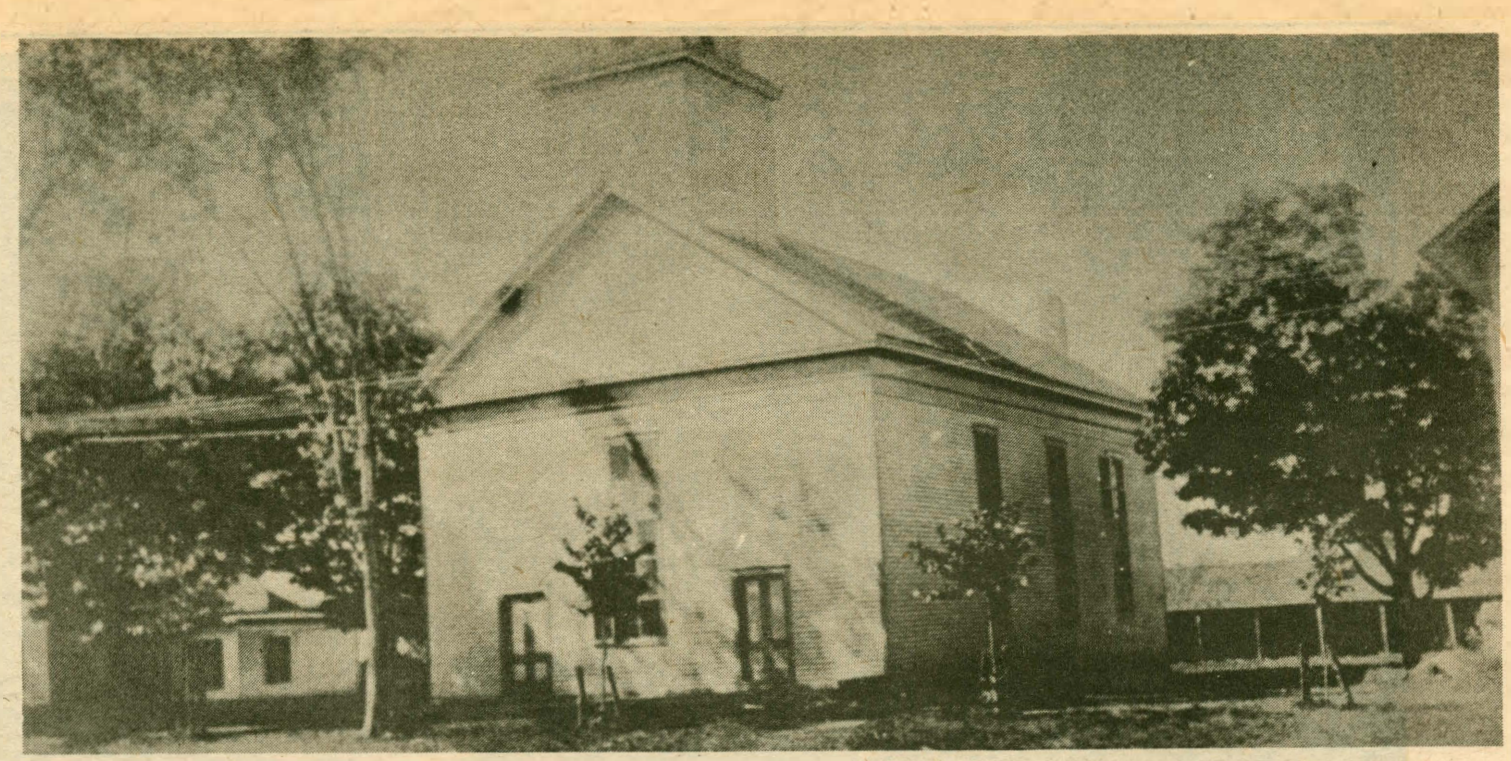


The First Congregational Church in Whitesboro, 1909.

Religious Fury in Whitesboro

By Lou DiCerbo

Hamilton College has counted among its alumni many distinguished personages, men who have excelled in their chosen field. One alumnus, however, who is all but forgotten today, was one of the most original and unorthodox religious thinkers in nineteenth century America. He was Leicester Ambrose Sawyer, member of the Class of 1828.

A native of Lewis County, Sawyer was born in Pinckney in 1807. He was valedictorian of his class, and subsequently taught for a year at schools in Clinton and Philadelphia. He entered Princeton Theological Seminary, graduating in 1831, and afterwords was licensed and ordained in Watertown. Sawyer served at churches in Massachusetts and New York, later becoming pastor for two churches in New Haven, Connecticut. In 1840, he took the reins as the president of Central College in Columbus, Ohio, serving for seven years. After leaving, Rev. Sawyer served as pastor in churches in Monroeville, Ohio and Sacketts Harbor, New York. He returned to Oneida County in 1854, becoming pastor of the Congregational Church in nearby Westmoreland. Sawyer left his charge in 1859 because he wanted to become an "independant Christian minister", and he subsequently served at the Unitarian Church in Hingham, Mass. A year later, he again returned to Oneida County, this time to Whitesboro, where he spent the remainder of his life. Besides writing and lecturing, Sawyer was night editor of the Utica Morning Herald and wrote a religious column for this newspaper titled "Religious Intelligence" between 1868 and 1883. He died in 1891, and his wife of 60 years and seven of his ten children survived him.

Sawyer was an especially learned man, being an especially adept classical scholar and an accomplished student of the Bible; he was one of the first American scholars to apply the literary and historical methods that were later called "higher criticism" to scriptural study. At his home, he translated almost the entire Bible, which was later published in sections and was part scripture, part analytic commentary. Sawyer maintained, much to the dismay of more orthodox colleagues, that existing translations were innaccurate, and that all of the New Testament was fiction with the exception of five epistles of Paul. He concluded that the prophets made no references to Christ as the Messiah, which was a revolutionary view for the time. He saw Christ as a humanitarian social reformer devoted to the elevation of the masses.

In his introduction to his translation of the Bible, Sawyer contended that some of the letters of Paul were written by one Marcion of Sinop, the son of a bishop, around 140 A.D. Marcion, he felt, was able to immitate Paul's literary style and repeated many of the doctrines present in the genuine letters of Paul.

Sawyer advanced what he termed the "rational theory of Jesus", which stated that Christ was not God, but a man like other men, "possessing only the faculties and powers proper to man, without any superhuman abilities, beyond what all men may attain." His superiority over other notable of the ancient world, he believed, stemmed from his ability to parlay his superior advantages in life and his wisdom to his advantage. Sawyer felt that Christ's parents were exceptionally intelligent and highly educated, but otherwise, they were normal human beings.

Jesus, according to Rev. Sawyer, was educated in the liberal arts, and was well versed in Greek and Latin. "Jesus was not a miracle worker," he wrote, "and he claimed no superhuman powers or dignities, but opposed all such claims as frauds and delusions. He was, however, master of the medical art, as it was practiced by the Greeks... This was sufficient to enable him and his scholars to perform cures, which the ignorance and superstition of the age deemed miraculous. These cures are commemorated by the exaggerations and inventions of the gospels." Sawyer saw Christ as a philosopher, comparable to Aristotle or Plato; Christ, he maintained, was not a Savior but an extremely talented educator, and a revolutionary-philosopher of humanism. Christ, according to Sawyer, was fighting the traditional Jewish laws and customs which he deemed wrong.

Sawyer believed that the Gospels were invented by people other than the Apostles; the books, he claimed, bore little resemblance to the facts, being "fictitious, frauds, and misjudgments of facts." The authors were too ignorant and superstitious to represent the early Christian movement and Christ correctly. He termed their accounts "preposterous". Sawyer felt that the New Testament bore more relation to Greek tragedies and epic poems. The actual apostles, he asserted, were "generally illiterate, some of whom never saw Jesus, and none of whom appear to have completed the course of liberal studies under him."

He conceived God as the source of all creative forces, and he feels that the Bible falsely portrays Him as "puerile and vengeful", and subject to other human emotions.

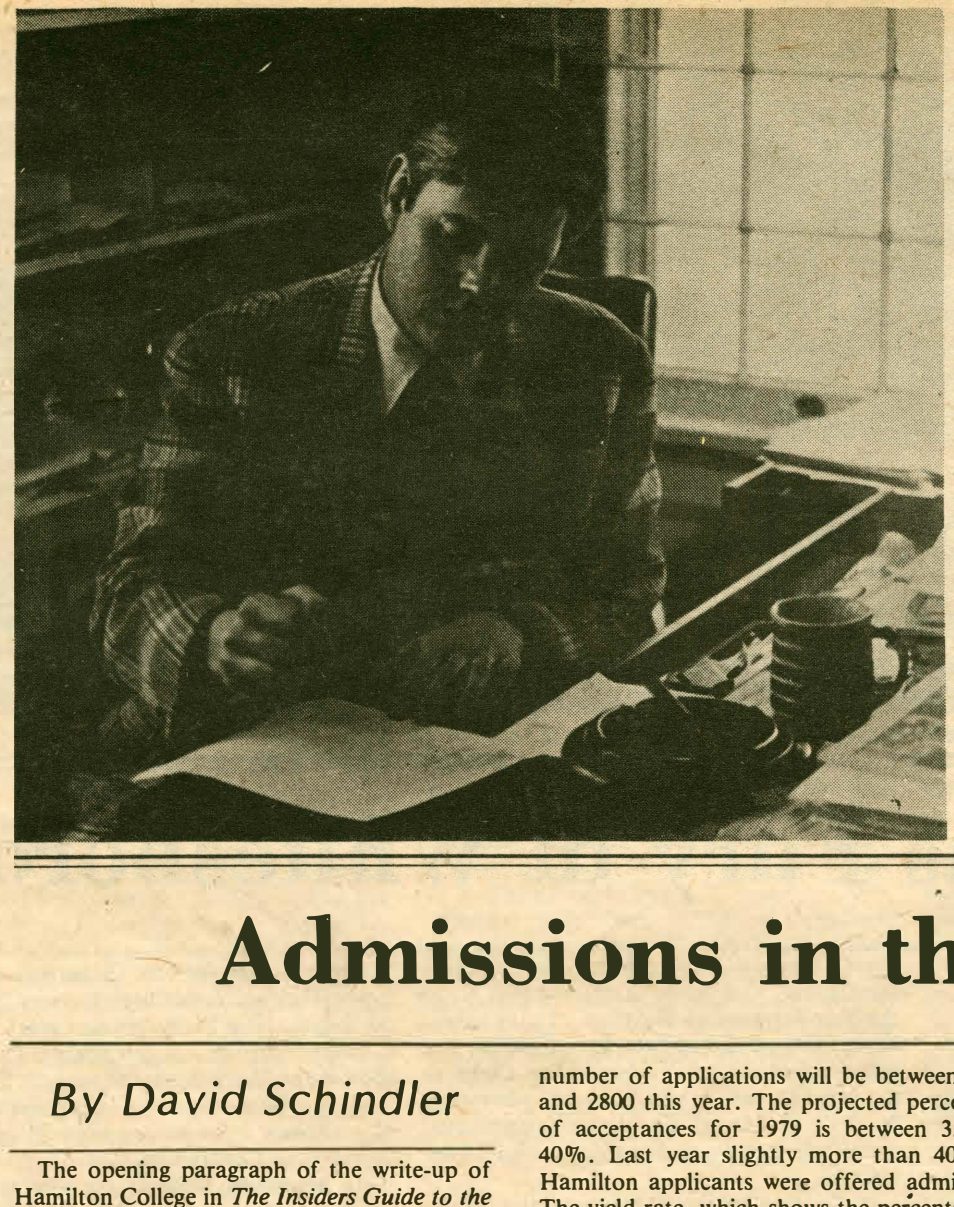
Sawyer maintained that the authors of the New Testament wanted the story of Christ to overshadow those of classical heroes such as Prometheus and Hercules, yet "it rests on the same sandy foundations as those of the Greek demigods. All fall together before the advance of genuine science."

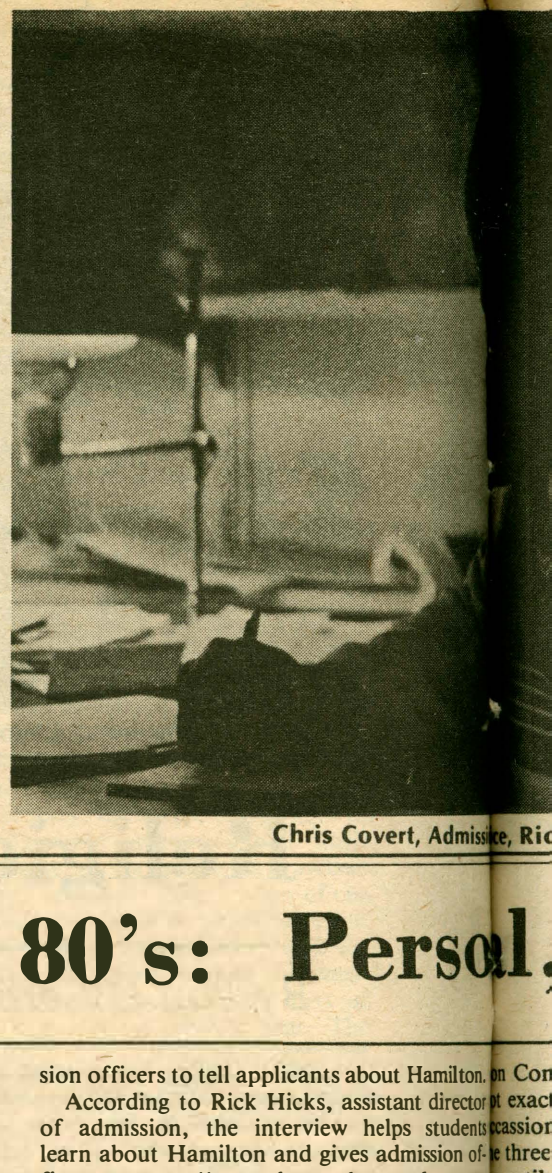
Sawyer was not only a religious thinker, however. In the January, 1876 issue of the Hamilton Literary Monthly, he proposed a scheme for "improving" the Gregorian calendar. He proposed that January 1 correspond with the winter solstice, April 1 with the vernal equinox, July 1 with the summer solstice, and October 1 with the autumnal equinox; the rest of the calendar was to be organized around these changes. He said the Gregorian calendar "is sadly out of joint and ought to be relieved of its painful disability". He hoped to arouse mass support to pressure Congress into adopting this calendar officially.

Sawyer was an advocate of the abolition of slavery before the civil war. In an 1857 sermon before the American Missionary Association in Ohio, he decried the turmoil that was occuring in Kansas over slavery: "Kansas has been invaded by hired ruffians in the interest in slavery, and subjugated and governed as a conquered province under a system of oppression which would have disgraced American savages; and its ruffian invaders have been supported and aided in this outrage by the President of the United States, with the consent of the Senate and a large party of the entire nation." Clearly, Sawyer was no friend of James Buchanan and the Democratic Party.

Leicester Ambrose Sawyer was a highly original thinker, although he was neglected by his contemporaries and has been overlooked to this day. Still, he represents the type of unorthodox individualist that Hamilton College can proudly claim as one of her own. □□

Lou DiCerbo '81 is a staff reporter for the Spectator with an eye for the obscure.





Chris Covert, Admiss[illegible]ce, Ric

Admissions in the 80's: Perso[illegible]l

By David Schindler

The opening paragraph of the write-up of Hamilton College in *The Insiders Guide to the Colleges* makes a questionable point:

> In a film several years ago, *The Sterile Cuckoo*, a young man at an isolated woodsy college was socially dependent on the comings and goings of his eccentric weekend girlfriend.
>
> The college was Hamilton. It's changed. A lot.

The Hamilton College Admission Office is a manifestation of how Hamilton has remained the same. Dean of Admission Christopher W. Covert maintains that the Admission Office helps Hamilton avoid becoming "a mere image" of any other institution. The distinctive essence of the Admission Office, he said, preserves the personal nature of Hamilton College. Hamilton has always had a personal character which has never changed, according to the admission staff.

When Hamilton merged with Kirkland, the admission offices of the two institutions combined. Today's Admission Office functions as one united organization. Although the transformation may appear to be overwhelmingly significant, the admission officers at Hamilton believe that it is not. Ellen Shuman, assistant director of admission, expressed an opinion commonly held by the staff when she said the merger has not changed the main challenge the Admission Office faces. According to Shuman, the challenge is attempting to present an accurate picture of Hamilton to prospective students, one which proves that Hamilton is a "neat, intimate place," since it has always been one of the "more personalized" colleges.

The Admission Office's exertion of energy is paying off. Even though the nationwide student population is dwindling, the selectivity of Hamilton is increasing. Last year, Hamilton received 2400 applications for 450 places in the freshman class. According to Covert, the total number of applications will be between 2500 and 2800 this year. The projected percentage of acceptances for 1979 is between 35 and 40%. Last year slightly more than 40% of Hamilton applicants were offered admission. The yield rate, which shows the percentage of accepted applicants who choose to come, was 33% for women and 43% for men in 1978. According to Covert, the yield for both men and women will probably be over 40% this year.

Hamilton admission officers form the core of the Admisson Office. Their personalized working conditions enable them to treat applicants as individuals. Each admission officer has general duties that he or she shares with all other staff members, as well as unique, specialized tasks, which are performed independently.

The general duties are interviewing candidates for admission, reading application folders, and travelling. They are the admission officers' most time-consuming activities.

According to *Today's Hamilton*, the Hamilton admissions viewbook, "The interview allows you to express yourself in the give-and-take of conversation and to elaborate on what you've told us [the Admission Office] in your written application." The admission officers agree with the statement; they consider the interview a very important tool for the applicant. However, they also believe that the interview is something that helps enable admission officers to tell applicants about Hamilton.

According to Rick Hicks, assistant director of admission, the interview helps students learn about Hamilton and gives admission officers a way to "get to know the people we see on paper" because "stereotypes and preconceived notions are dispelled." Interviewing takes up huge portions of the admission officers' time. Since interviews are required, a very large number of them are given. From May 1 to December 29, 1977, 793 women and 1140 men were interviewed.

When application folders are read by the Admission Committee, which consists of the six admission officer, and eight faculty members, and the Dean of Students, the following characteristics of applicants are considered:

1) The academic record (excluding SAT scores);
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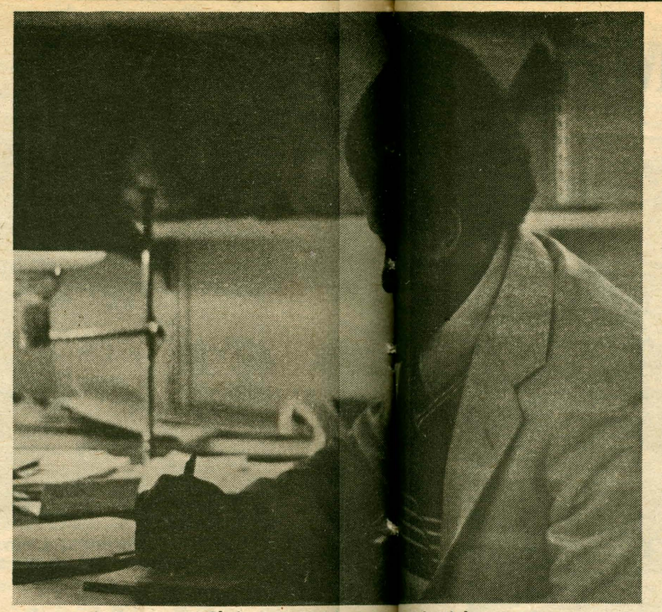
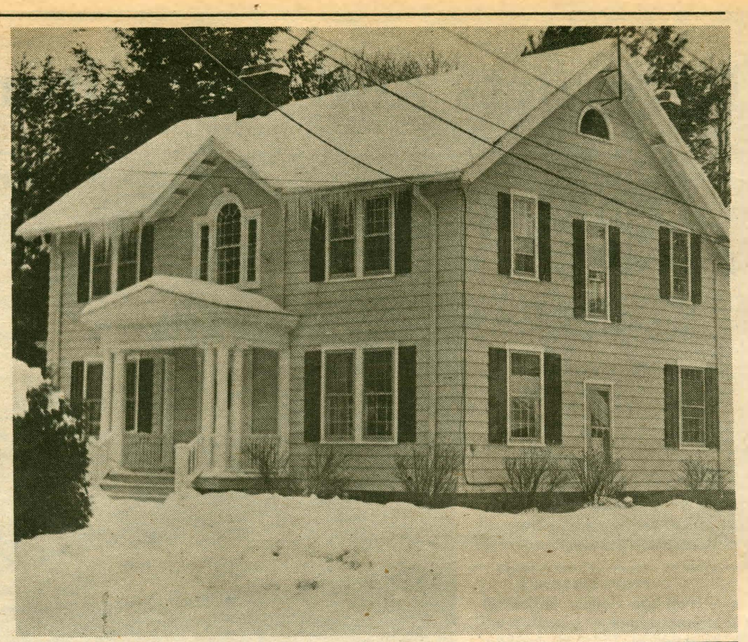


Chris Covert, Admission Rick Hicks.



Admissions in the 80's: Personal, Individual and Lots of Cool

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Committee for a three-day trip which is exactly a vacation. According to Covert, sional "verbal battles" take place during three days. Work from eight in the morn- until eleven at night is required, but Covert it is interesting and fun. The B group can- tes are divided into three more A, B, and roups. The the final acceptance list and list are formed.

The travelling patterns of admission officers been altered this year. According to ctor of Admission Maridel Allen, visits to schools are relatively ineffective; informa- sessions, large meeting for prospective nts that take place at hotels and other s draw more applicants. However, even gh the number of high school visits has cut in half, the admission officers will iely continue to visit certain schools that ys supply a large number of applicants. e include several private Eastern schools Phillips Exeter, Phillips Andover, and field, according to Allen.

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There aren't nearly enough minority nts at Hamilton College," said Hicks. of Hicks' specific duties is to help the Ad- ion Office introduce Hamilton to minority dents. He presents information about milton to minority organizations such as the .C. program and Aspira in order to attract nority applicants. Hicks says that, because e shortage of minority students, "We are yet as diverse as we should be," and that vailability of a "good four-year educa- " is the main reason why more minority students should come to Hamilton.

Gregory Polakow, assistant director of admission, is in charge of analyzing admission publications and student search mailings. According to Polakow, a small pamphlet, "What You Should Know About Hamilton College," is the "most preliminary" introduction to Hamilton for prospective students. The tion" is the main reason why more minority description of the college. The catalogue makes a lot of information about Hamilton available to prospective students, but is produced by the academic departments rather than the Admission Office. Polakow says that the student search mailings also effectively expose Hamilton to high school students.

There are some other people in addition to admission officers who help make admission decisions. However, their roles in the admission process are limited compared to those of the admission officers, since they do not work with the Admission Office on a full-time basis. They are faculty members of the Admission Committee and a student intern.

According to Edwin Lee, Jr., professor of history and Admission Committee member, faculty members contribute unique attitudes and viewpoints to the Admission Office. He explained that "We [the faculty] know more about the classroom" than admission officers. Lee added that "Admission officers can't know all the ins and outs" of academics at Hamilton that faculty members are familiar with. Faculty members on the Admission Committee take applicants' personal qualities into account, but are especially qualified to evaluate academic achievement and aptitude.

Ann Fiester, the admission intern, was selected from a large group of applicants. She interviews students and writes evaluation about them, but does not read folders. She does not do anything else in the Admission Office, because interviewing takes up so much time.

Covert maintains that Hamilton has never been a "preppie" college with very rich students. He said that "There has been a traditional rather than a conservative approach to liberal arts" at Hamilton.

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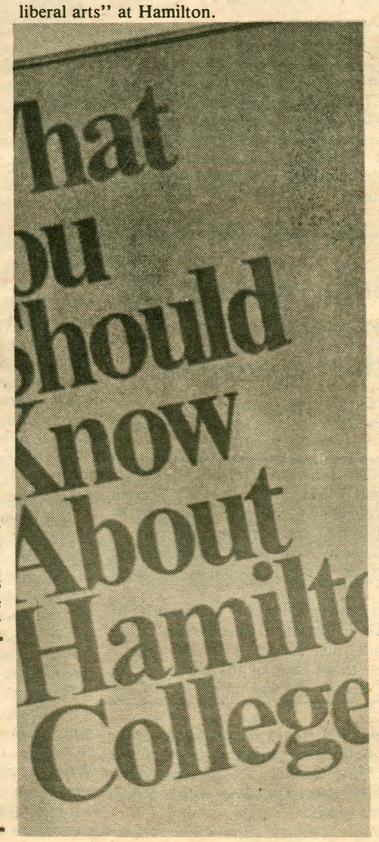
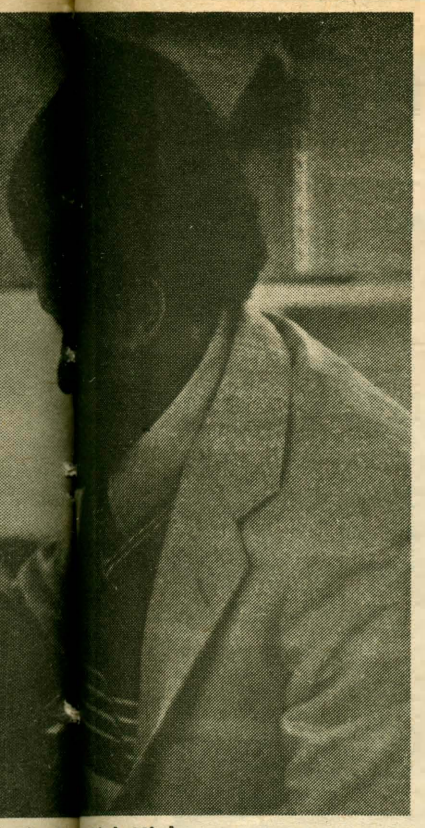
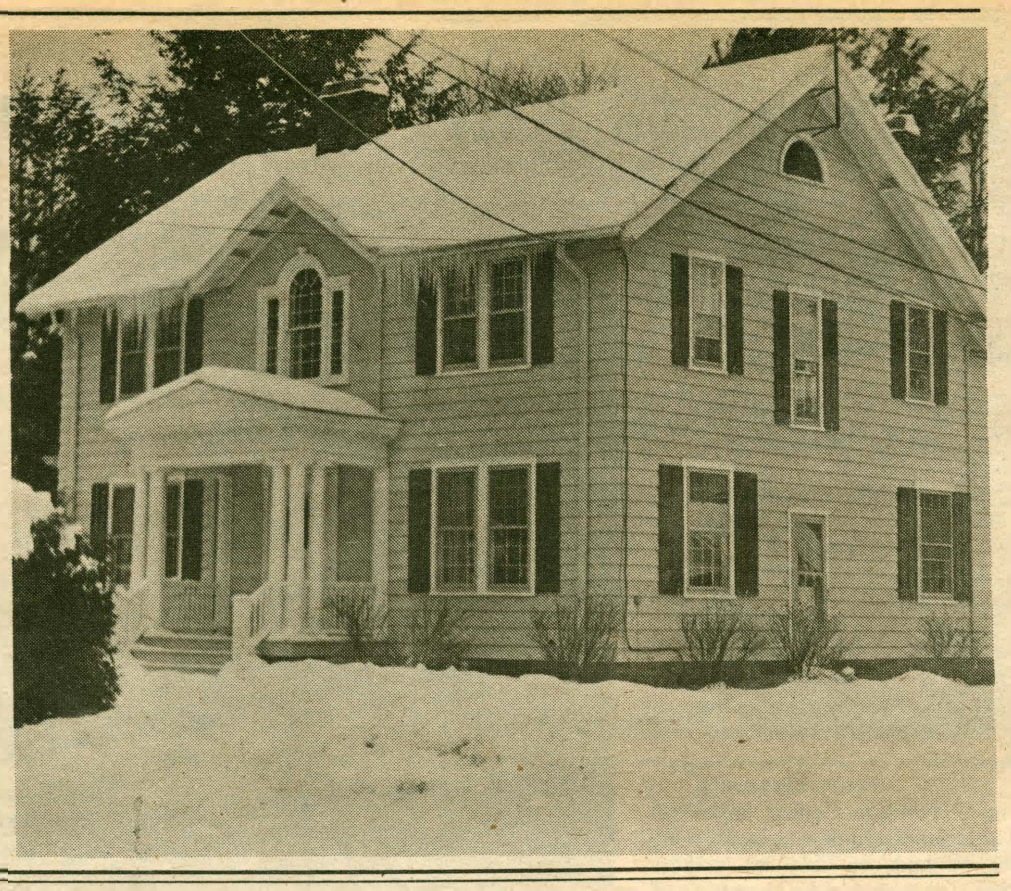




Admissions Officer Rick Hicks.



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The travelling patterns of admission officers ...e been altered this year. According to ...ctor of Admission Maridel Allen, visits to ...schools are relatively ineffective; informa- ...sessions, large meeting for prospective ...ents that take place at hotels and other ...es draw more applicants. However, even ...gh the number of high school visits has ...n cut in half, the admission officers will ...itely continue to visit certain schools that ...ys supply a large number of applicants. ...e include several private Eastern schools ... Phillips Exeter, Phillips Andover, and ...erfield, according to Allen.

The specific duties of admission officers in- ...e a wide range of activities. They are dif- ...nt for each staff member, because each ...icular officer has his or her own interests, ...ities, and responsibilities.

"There aren't nearly enough minority ...dents at Hamilton College," said Hicks. ...e of Hicks' specific duties is to help the Ad- ...ion Office introduce Hamilton to minority ...dents. He presents information about ...milton to minority organizations such as the ...C. program and Aspira in order to attract ...ority applicants. Hicks says that, because ...the shortage of minority students, "We are ...yet as diverse as we should be," and that ...availability of a "good four-year educa- ..." is the main reason why more minority students should come to Hamilton.

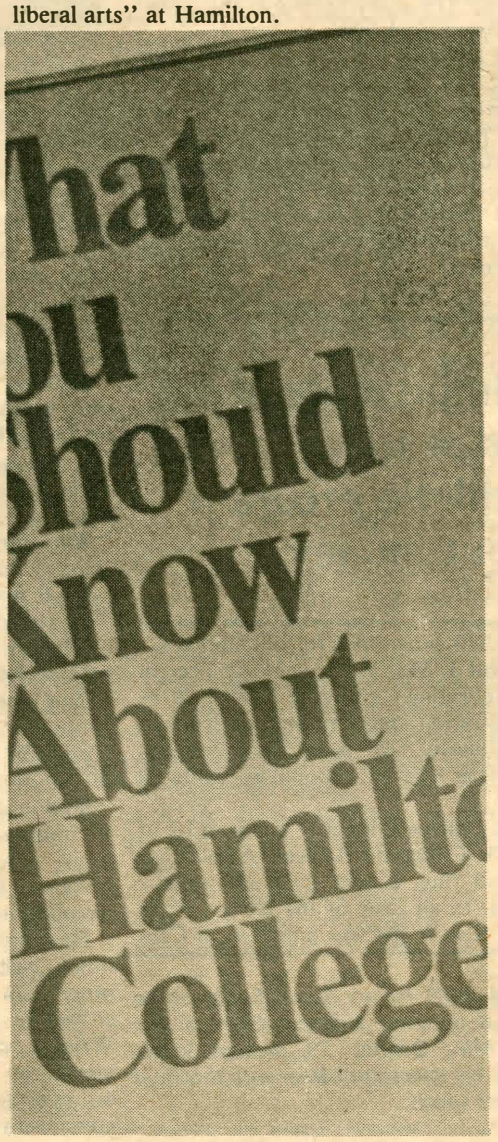
Gregory Polakow, assistant director of admission, is in charge of analyzing admission publications and student search mailings. According to Polakow, a small pamphlet, "What You Should Know About Hamilton College," is the "most preliminary" introduction to Hamilton for prospective students. The ...tion" is the main reason why more minority description of the college. The catalogue makes a lot of information about Hamilton available to prospective students, but is produced by the academic departments rather than the Admission Office. Polakow says that the student search mailings also effectively expose Hamilton to high school students.

There are some other people in addition to admission officers who help make admission decisions. However, their roles in the admission process are limited compared to those of the admission officers, since they do not work with the Admission Office on a full-time basis. They are faculty members of the Admission Committee and a student intern.

According to Edwin Lee, Jr., professor of history and Admission Committee member, faculty members contribute unique attitudes and viewpoints to the Admission Office. He explained that "We [the faculty] know more about the classroom" than admission officers. Lee added that "Admission officers can't know all the ins and outs" of academics at Hamilton that faculty members are familiar with. Faculty members on the Admission Committee take applicants' personal qualities into account, but are especially qualified to evaluate academic achievement and aptitude.

Ann Fiester, the admission intern, was selected from a large group of applicants. She interviews students and writes evaluation- about them, but does not read folders. She does not do anything else in the Admission Office, because interviewing takes up so much time.

Covert maintains that Hamilton has never been a "preppie" college with very rich students. He said that "There has been a traditional rather than a conservative approach to liberal arts" at Hamilton.



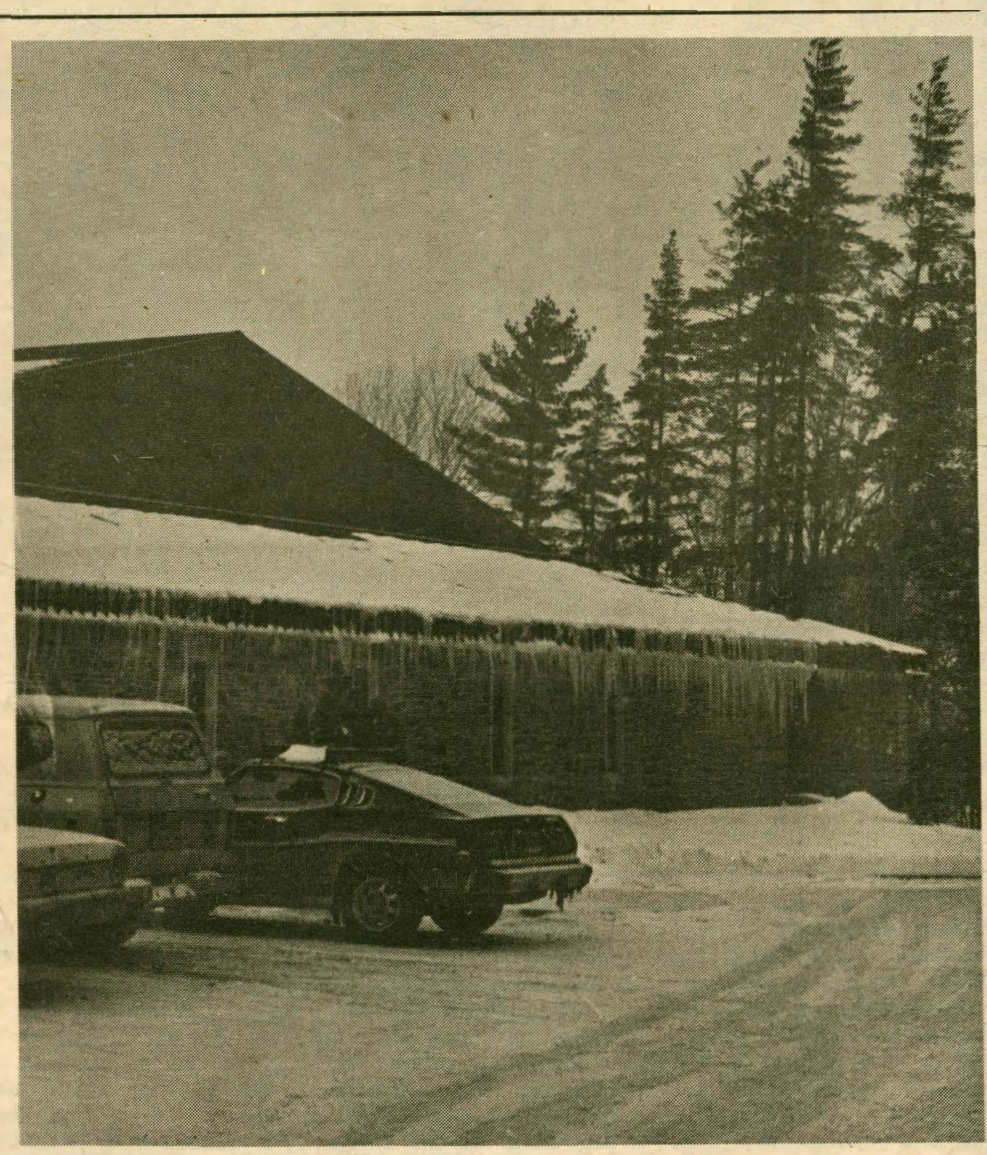
Covert maintains that Hamilton has never been a "preppie" college with very rich students.

Do Sports and Hamilton Mix?

By Dave Balog and Mike Denney

"I trust that I need not add that in defending athletics I would not for one moment be understood as excusing that perversion of athletics which would make it the end of life instead of merely a means in life."
-THEODORE ROOSEVELT

"Hamilton's sports program seems to me exactly what I would sponsor if I were president of a small college. Hamilton now serves as a prototype for the best in small American colleges."
—JAMES MICHENER



A night at a Hamilton College basketball game is not as uncomfortable as it used to be. Walk into the spanking new fieldhouse and the first thing that strikes you is the immensity of the building. Look beyond the huge royal blue curtain at the far end of the court and you reealize that the main basketball area does not occupy even half of the fieldhouse's total space. Climb the portable wooden stands and you feel the luxury of open space that was nonexistent in the cramped Alumni Gym. Glance at the immaculate court itself and you forget the bare spots and weariness of the old gym's court.

In order to get a seat in years past, it was usually necessary to arrive up to one hour before the start of the varsity game. No more. With seating enough for 2,000, there is ample room for all. The game program, still rather modest, is *gratis* as always.

But there are other prices to pay now. There is, for one, the price of admission for non-campus visitors. Along with this is the optional price of a "Fighting Continentals" tee-shirt or button. Inconsequential changes perhaps, but they lead to a larger question: Is there a price to be paid for the luxuries ushered in by a gorgeous fieldhouse and a highly successful basketball team?

□

It is impossible in America today to run an athletic program without money.

"Our athletic program is for our students," said President J. Martin Carovano in a recent interview, reflecting a common belief held by the administration, faculty, and students of Hamilton College. That belief, simply stated, is that sports at Hamilton should appeal to all students.

Hamilton College belongs to Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and thus cannot give out athletic scholarships. In an issue of the NCAA News last March, Ken Weller, the president of Central College in Iowa, discussed "The Division III Philosophy:" "It can be claimed that, in general, Division I institutions place greater emphasis on 'societal' objectives. Division III institutions concentrate on 'participant' objectives. Division II institutions are likely to fall somewhere in between."

Given that "'participant' objectives" should form the basis for Hamilton's athletic program, what does the school offer its participants, the students? Athletic Director Gene Long pictures Hamilton athletics as a three-layered pyramid, with required physical education, in which everyone is a participant, at the bottom. The intramural program occupies the second tier of the pyramid, and intercollegiate athletics, in which the fewest students participate, is on the top.

The intramural program is currently in a state of flux, an inevitable result of coeducation. It may be, as one student pointed out, "not well publicized," but it would be, on the whole, unfair to analyze a program still in its early stages of development.

The main function of intercollegiate competition at a school like Hamilton is, as expressed by Robert Simon, associate professor of philosophy, to give athletes a chance to "develop skills and have fun within a disciplined framework." It also provides "an opportunity for athletes to test their skills at a somewhat higher level than if there were no intercollegiate competition," said Carovano.

Hamilton's varsity sports serve a social function as well. "I don't think much of a purpose other than entertainment is served by intercollegiate athletics," commented Warren Wright, professor of speech, "but it's marvelous entertainment." Sporting events do, as several people noted, bring together the community.

Realistically, both elements are present at Hamilton in different degrees for different sports. The cross country team, whose meets are held out on the golf course, does not cater to spectators. The college community is perhaps pleased to read that its cross country team is doing well, but this does not greatly increase attendance at meets.

In contrast are the "high visibility" sports, such as basketball, football, and hockey. These three sports attract the most spectators, receive the most press coverage, and are the subjects of most of the college's sports publicity. They are the only sports for which Hamilton charges admission to non-college spectators. They are also Hamilton's most expensive sports.

It is impossible in America today to run an athletic program without money. Gone are the days when sports were informal, "with little faculty or administrative encouragement," as Frank Lorenz wrote in a recent *Alumni Review* article. The costs of transportation, equipment, meals, and such accessories as videotaping equipment have simply grown beyond the capabilities of the student body. Hamilton's budget for 1978-79 allocated $336,000 (approximately 2.3 percent of the total budget) to the physical education department. Two hundred thousand dollars of this sum goes for salaries. Over $100,000 is spent on varsity sports, including $22,947 for football, $16,241 for hockey, and $8,010 for basketball.

"I don't believe we are spending too much on athletics," said Carovano, and many faculty members agree that Hamilton's priorities are in the right place. "The library was built first, then the chemistry building, and then the fieldhouse," noted Ivan Marki, associate professor of English. "An auditorium for public events should probably come next." Never-

Dave Balog '79, former Sports Editor of the Spectator, is currently Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook. Mike Denney '79, present Sports Editor, ends his Spectator career with this final article about sports.

theless, it is a large sum of money that is being spent annually on varsity sports and the question could legitimately be raised of how well this expenditure agrees with a participant basis for athletics.

The element of spectator "participation" undeniably exists in the school's larger sports. A non-college audience has developed for hockey, football, and basketball, and this audience is willing to pay. According to Gene Long, "Hamilton is not dependent at all on revenue from sports," and he estimated that less than $5,500 would be raised from ticket sales this year.

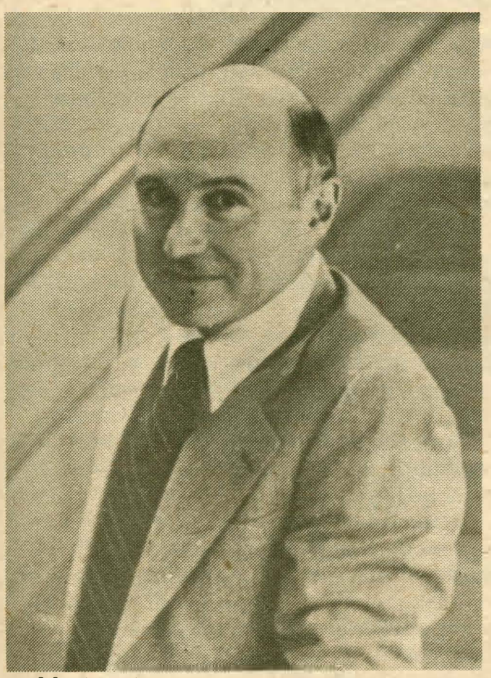
In addition, the college community is given a chance to take part in an 'event,' one which takes place beyond the final result of the contest. Rick Werner, assistant professor of philosophy, noted that "there is something egalitarian about sporting events." Professors and students mingle with a common focus—the team they are watching.

It is clear, then, that intercollegiate sports at Hamilton provide something for spectators as well as for players. Though this is perhaps not part of an ideal view of Division III athletics, it is a realistic one. America's love of sports affects all levels of competition. Football programs costing a dollar each and the John F. Kennedy High School (Utica) Marching Band performing at halftime both represent attempts on the part of the college to "serve" a group that goes beyond participants. In a similar manner, the college provides copy for the press, most of which reaches a non-college audience.

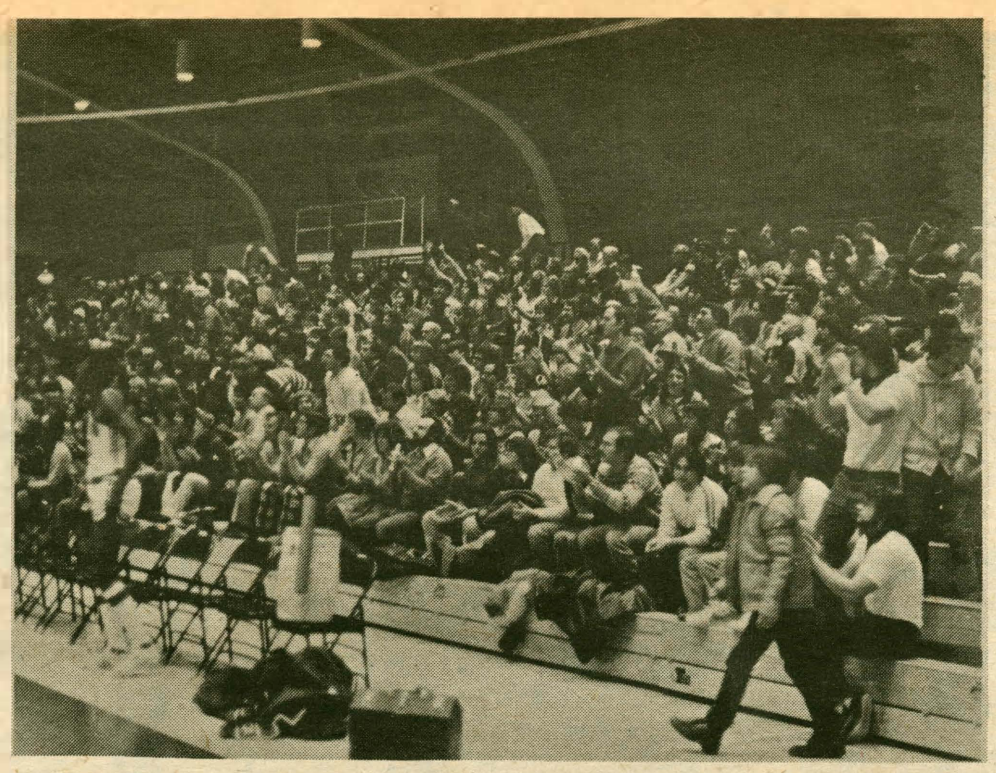
Publicity

Curt Smith, a former reporter for the Rochester *Democrat-Chronicle*, runs Hamilton's press relations office and carries the task of spreading the name of the college. The office struck gold recently when the national sports magazine, *Sports Illustrated* featured the Continental basketball team in a substantial article. Hamilton's basketball team has had more than its share of good fortune in the past few years in landing stories in publications such as the *Sporting News*, the *New York Times*, and the *New York Post*, as well as *Sports Illustrated*.

To accomplish the job of spreading the word about the college, Smith's office relies upon press releases covering virtually every aspect of sports at Hamilton. The releases, stories ready for publication or broadcast, are sent to local newspapers and radio stations as well as to national magazines. Their use varies, according to Smith, due to the various size and space requirements of the media. But even if they are not published or broadcast, the releases serve their purpose. "They keep the editors aware and in touch with the college," said Smith.



Athletic Director Gene Long.



"There is something egalitarian about sporting events," said Rick Werner, assistant professor of philosophy. Professors and students mingle with a common focus—the team they are watching.

"You have to keep in contact."

It was such persistence on Smith's part that landed the *Sports Illustrated* article, written by a local newspaper reporter. Hamilton's recent exposure, which has come entirely from the basketball team, is not due totally to the team's success in recent years, according to Smith. While admitting that "you don't get into print without a winning team," Smith pointed out that sports such as hockey do not have the national following that basketball has. Smith's office is also not hesitant to refer its readership to the praise heaped upon the college several years ago by author James Michener in his book, *Sports in America*.

Are the sole purposes of publicity to generate money and attract students to the college? Dean of the College W. Lawrence Gulick maintained that a good overall athletic program is important in attracting students. "If we did not have intercollegiate athletics, we would have more trouble finding students; high school seniors see intercollegiate athletics as an important part of college life. A good

The Sole Requirement

The 1960's ushered in many things, but at the same time they ushered out some very disputed regulations on college campuses across the nation: distribution requirements. The 1970's have witnessed a return to requirements in various forms including the new writing and speaking requirements established recently at Hamilton. Nevertheless, the sole mandatory course requirement at Hamilton remains physical education.

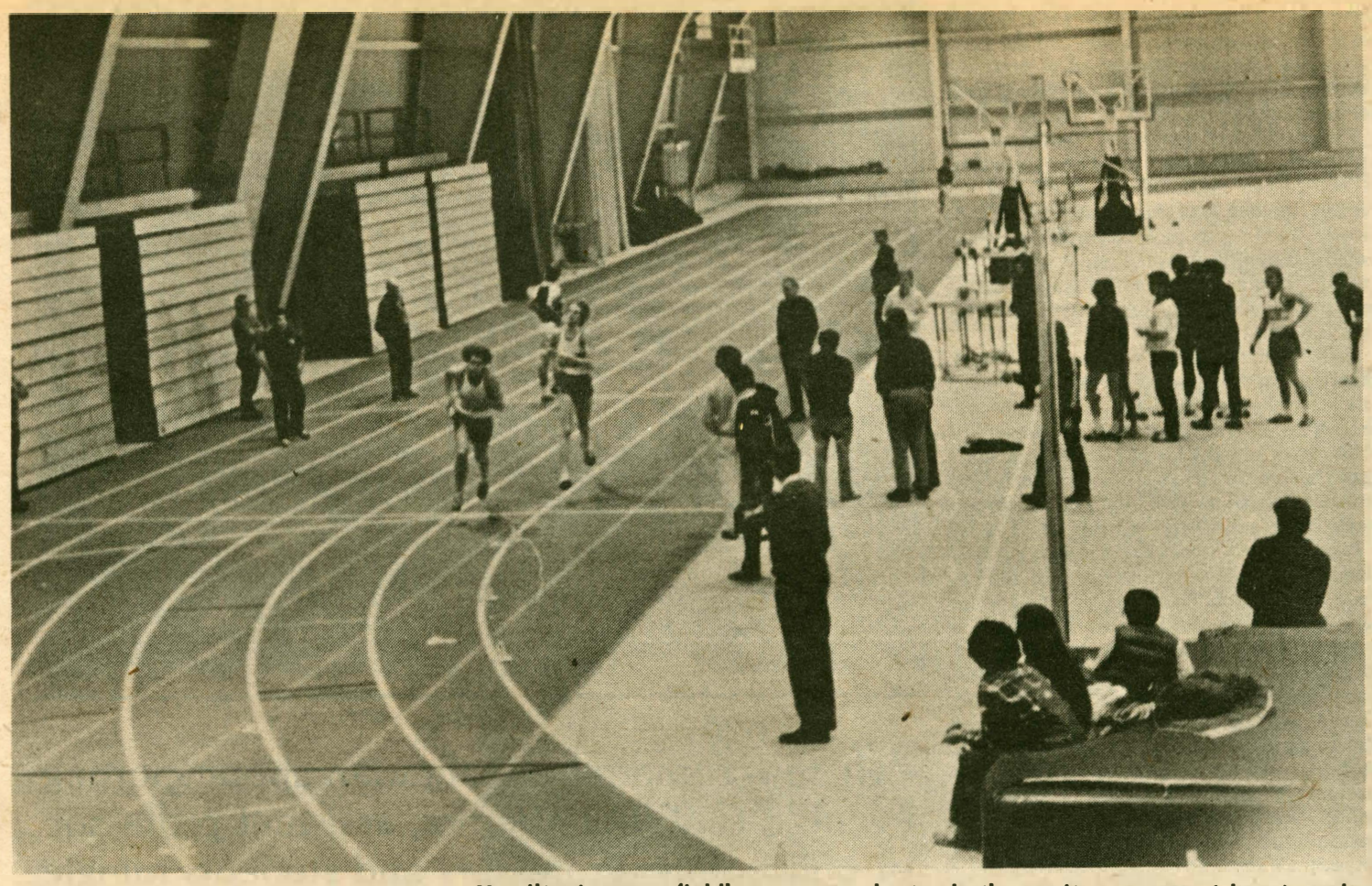
In order to graduate, a student must pass a general fitness test and show proficiency in two "carryover" (or "lifetime") sports such as tennis and squash. Is this odd for a school that leans heavily upon a structure of faculty guidance and individual choice in academics to leave no freedom of choice in athletics? "I think it would be amusing for an outsider looking at Hamilton's overall program," commented Ivan Marki.

According to Dean Gulick, the requirements for physical education are necessary. "A portion of undergraduates would not go to the gym and a fair number would not participate in any carryover sport unless courses were required. The question is, how many benefit who would not were there no requirement? The answer is, I think, enough to justify the requirements." Gulick, who has strongly favored the reinstitution of course requirements during his tenure as dean, felt, like Marki, that it is ironic that athletics constitute the only specific requirements for a Hamilton diploma.

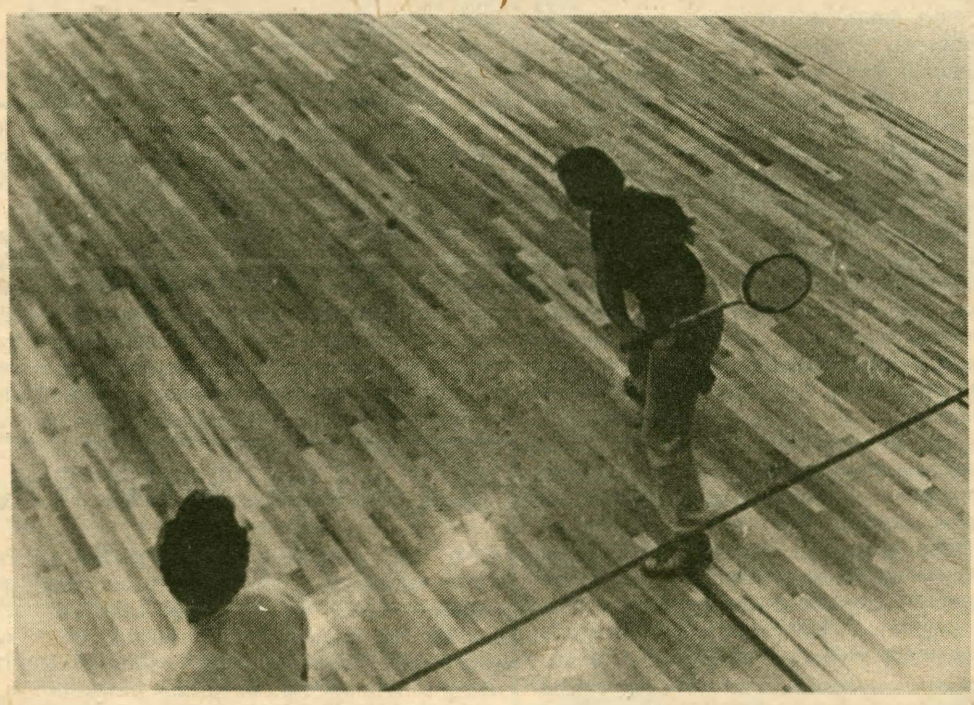
Professor of Chemistry Robin Kinnel felt that physical education requirements are "desirable, but not necessary." Kinnel, who served on the ad hoc committee on athletics last year, felt that the requirements should apply to all students, regardless of gender. That was the recommendation passed on by the committee last year when the issue of coeducation arose.

One student believed that while phys. ed. had value, it is administered badly. "Most of the coaches are involved in the particular sport they coach and don't really care about the regular student. The idea is good, but there is too much indifference on the part of the coaches and students to make it work."

Warren Wright, professor of Speech, maintained that the program of teaching carryover sports to undergraduates is "singularly important." The men and women who graduate from here are going to be doing largely sedentary things for the rest of their lives—we have to show them that the body matters as well as the mind," he said.



Hamilton's new fieldhouse appeals to both varsity runners (above) and weekend squash players (below).



program gives us publicity we lose because we do not give athletic scholarships." To Gulick, a move to abolish athletics would be bad in the long run because "the college would attract a different kind of student."

Hamilton Dean of Admission Christopher Covert agreed that publicity garnered through sports related articles is important. "It could be a high school student's first contact with Hamilton." Covert also maintained that "competitive teams add a positive aura to the school." He said that it is important for the admission office to show an article such as the one in *Sports Illustrated* to prospective students.

On the subject of fundraising, both Gulick and Vice-President Joseph Anderson agreed that publicity gained by a winning team helps finances, but that Hamilton alumni do not, in Gulick's words, "keep their hands on their wallets" in bad athletic years. Winning, on the other hand, certainly does not hurt. "If a team loses 15-20 games regularly, an alumnus does not feel that the program is first rate," held Anderson.

"If a team loses 15-20 games regularly, an alumnus does not feel that the program is first rate," held Vice-President Joseph Anderson.

NESCAC

Hamilton College belongs to the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), a group that also numbers Amherst, Bates, Bowdoin, Colby, Middlebury, Trinity, Tufts, Wesleyan, and Williams as its members. The conference, founded in 1971, has as a goal keeping "the program in intercollegiate athletics...in harmony with the essential educational purposes of the institution."

Members of NESCAC are encouraged to schedule contests against each other. "There's no trick to mounting a successful athletic program," noted Carovano. "You have to choose your competition. That's what NESCAC is all about." Hamilton's football schedule contained five of eight games against NESCAC schools, and the hockey team plays six NESCAC opponents. The basketball team, because of the availability of comparable competition in New York State, plays only two NESCAC schools.

NESCAC has met with widespread approval at Hamilton for the most part. There are several reasons for this. One, noted by Warren Wright, is that it is "far better to be with schools whose recruiting and rules are those that we can respect and live with." Another benefit, noted by Vice-President Anderson, is the "positioning" of the conference. "The concept of NESCAC is very positive for Hamilton," he said, pointing out that the school's overall public image is aided by identification with the other schools in the conference.

The limitations placed on member schools by NESCAC include restrictions on recruiting, on season length, on pre-season practices, on recruiting, on financial aid, and on post-season competition. All have met with general approval except the last, which has become a thorn in NESCAC's side. At a meeting in December, the NESCAC presidents unanimously voted to retain the rule, despite pressure from coaches to dispense with it.

The presidents were aided in their decision by a list prepared by the conference's athletic directors of the pros and cons of post-season competition. Among the more persuasive pros are arguments such as the athletes' desire to attend the tournaments, the granting to teams the same priveleges extended to individuals who can go to post-season play, and the belief that such play "allows team sports members to follow through to the end 'the pursuit of excellence.'"

On the minus side, the athletic directors listed such things as pressure to make the tournaments, "possible distortion of emphasis on one or two sports to the neglect of the rest of the program," and the argument that "alumni/community involvement could threaten institutional control."

The last argument is particularly interesting,

Stratford to Rebuild Hamilton Football

By Phil Robinson

It was in the fall of 1948 when a team coached by Earl Svendsen defeated Earlham College 19-12. That was the last time Hamilton College won a football game under a coach other than Don Jones.

Head man for 28 of the last 30 years, Jones has resigned, taking with him many fine achievements, a 98-102 career mark, but also leaving behind a football program with obvious problems.

In the last three years his teams have won a total of seven games. Only nine freshmen tried out for last year's squad,and only 37 players suited up for the Continentals' final game against Union. Jones himself admitted the program needed rebuilding and perhaps put it best by saying, "it was time to give someone else a chance."

That someone is Ted Stratford.

Stratford, who signed a 3½ year contract on December 21, comes to Hamilton after a ten-year tenure as head coach at St. Lawrence University. He carries several very impressive credentials. The 47-year-old Stratford has never had a losing season at St. Lawrence; his teams have compiled a 65-25 record in the ten year period between 1969 and 1978, for a .732 winning percentage.

St. Lawrence finished second in the voting for the Lambert Cup in 1969 and 1978, while in 1976 his Saints were ranked third in the nation among Division III schools.

"Ted Stratford comes to Hamilton with a distinguished record," said Dean W. Lawrence Gulick. "He understands Hamilton's philosophy towards athletics—the budget constraints and the academic pressures on the players. He's a successful coach committed to turning our program around."

The hiring of Stratford does not bring with it any new financial support, on the behalf of the school, to revitalize the football program. ('79 budget estimates gives between a $100 to $500 increase to football). But the hiring does, in the words of Gulick, carry a "strong commitment" from the administration of the College to improve the program.

"Every other school in NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference) has done a good deal more to identify with the student-athlete than Hamilton has," commented Gulick.

Expressing the same sentiments, Hamilton's Athletic Director Gene Long noted, "We're competing with the Ivy League and the Little Three (Amherst, Williams, Wesleyan), yet I do firmly believe we can attract prospective students thinking about those colleges, by putting together a good football program with a liberal arts education that is one of the best in the country."

"I think it's become a consensus among the members of the physical Education Department that the football program needs significant support. They've expressed a willingness to 'bite the bullet' for their sports in order for the football program to get the help it needs," Long added. He went on to say, "We will try to improve the football program with the full assurance that the whole process is in concert with the academic program and the other sports."

If the hiring of Stratford symbolizes a rebirth of Hamilton football, it also marks the start of a new life for Stratford. In his own words, Stratford felt he wanted a "new challenge". He believes he has taken St. Lawrence football as far as it will ever go, and wants to do it all over again.

On first apearance, Stratford comes across as a hardworking, dedicated, personable coach. He's the type of person who, in the words of Marc White, one of six players on the student committee interviewing prospective candidates for the job, "instills confidence in and is able to develop a report with his players."

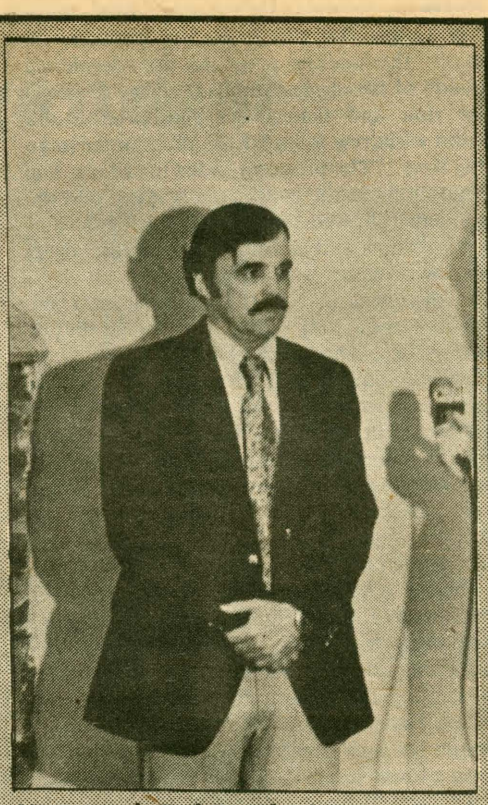
The immediate task facing Stratford is recruiting a squad for next year. Hoping to see twenty five freshmen recruits on the practice field next fall, he, along with assistant coach Joe Kacevich, have wasted little time launching a vigorous search for talent.

"You don't usually have winning football with freshman players," noted Stratford. "The players that are here will be the nucleus and we will use the new talent to support them."

Although somewhat hesitant to specify the Continentals weaknesses, Stratford left little doubt in his answer. "We need interior linemen. You don't win football games without good groups in the trenches. We need greatness at the skill positions. They are quarterbacks, flankers, running backs, and ends."

Stratford's philosophy on recruiting at Hamilton is simple. "If there are kids with both the academic and athletic talent to be thinking about schools like Amherst, Williams and Yale, you have to ask, why not Hamilton?"

"Recruiting at Hamilton will be easier than it was at St. Lawrence in two ways," he continued. "One, Hamilton's more centrally located geographically and the school has a better academic reputation than St. Lawrence. The main problem will be trying to convince kids that we're serious about upgrading Hamilton football."



New coach Ted Stratford.

If nothing else, Stratford is out to make Hamilton football more exciting for both the players and the fans.

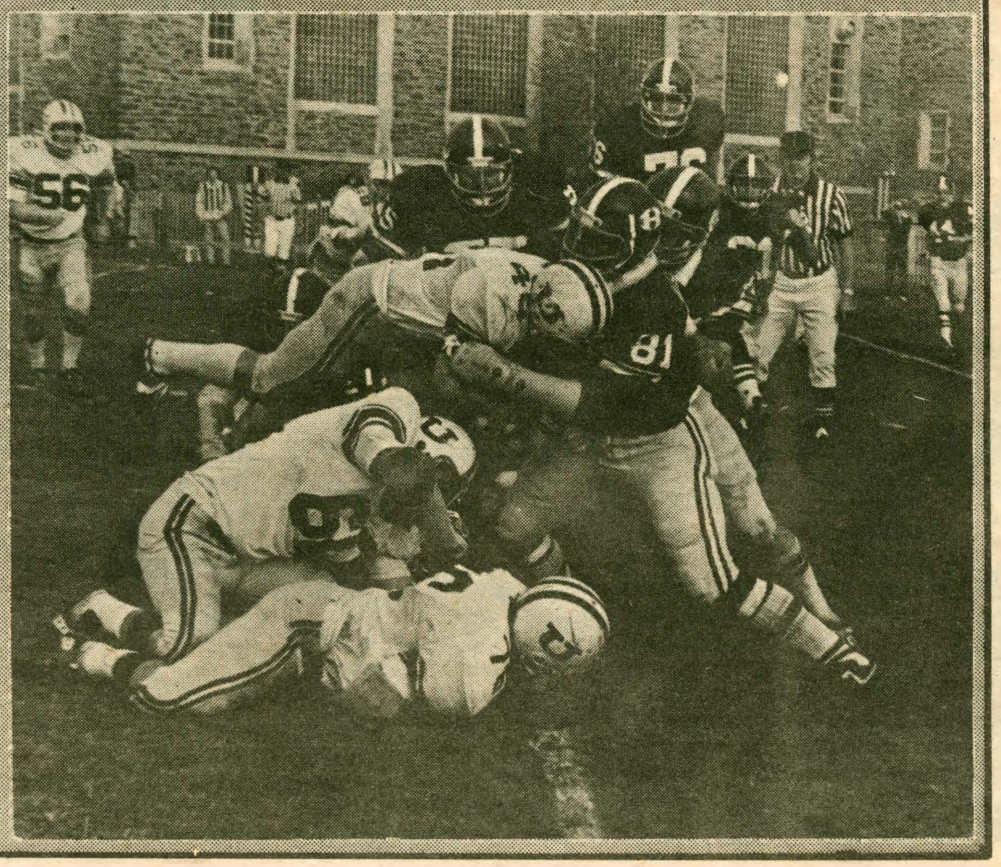
"They described Woody Hayes' offense at Ohio State as 'three yards and a cloud of dust,'" mused Stratford at his first press conference last week. "Well, I like to describe my offense as thirty-three yards and a cloud of helium."

"If I can find the right kind of kid to run the offense I'll use three wide receivers and throw the living daylights out of the ball. It's fun to coach, fun to play, and fun to watch."

While admitting the rebuilding of Hamilton football would be a "difficult challenge", Stratford was quick to add that it will be a thrill to witness.

"The key word is patience," continued Stratford, "A resurgence will not occur overnight. It will take careful recruitment and hard work. I don't know how long it will take."

Ted Stratford has done it before—he took over a St. Lawrence program that had turned out only five victories in the three previous seasons and in one year produced a 7-1 winner. While even Stratford himself admits such a rapid turnover is unlikely at Hamilton, don't bet against him—never bet against a winner.



Phil Robinson '82 covered football last fall for the Spectator.

as it recalls the Union hockey debacle. At Union, the hockey program was developed outside of the student body in many respects. The rink and team were "imported" and Union withdrew from NESCAC in order to go "big time." The program ended in failure. The resignations of the coach, the players, and the president followed revelations of irregularities in admissions and complaints about the direction the program was taking.

Involvement in NESCAC is seemingly the one way to guarantee that such abuses do not happen here. Any school withdrawing from NESCAC now would be subject to critical scrutiny by its faculty and students. Escalation in athletics at Hamilton would draw fire, and while it is perhaps unfortunate that the occasional strong team at Hamilton, such as last year's basketball team, cannot go to the NCAA Division III tournament, one must also look at the principles involved.

The NCAA, in recent years, has increased post-season competition by leaps and bounds. Next year, the Steering Committee wants to add a championship season which would take place after the traditional bowl games that NCAA Division I schools play in. The opportunities for such competition have also increased on a lower level. Last year, the NCAA added Division II hockey (Hamilton competes in Division II in hockey) despite the fact that many of the better teams in Division II belong to NESCAC schools.

Most of the members of the faculty whom we talked to could find no objections to post-season competition. Tom Murphy, associate professor of physical education and basketball coach, is a vocal opponent of the rule that limits play. "The rule makes no sense to me. I think all of our kids feel it's wrong and a majority of the coaches are against the rule." Reflecting another common opinion, though, Murphy added, "I have nothing against NESCAC."

Recruiting

There is, to a certain extent, a contradiction involved in recruiting at Hamilton. How does one justify, in a program designed to maximize participation, trying to recruit the participants? Isn't recruiting based on proficiency more than on participation?

"I'm not a strong believer in aggressive solicitation of the prospective student-athlete," commented Long, "but I do have a higher priority for attracting them now than ten years ago." The 'student-athlete' that Hamilton is seeking is a precious commodity. If he or she has any talent, and can meet the school's academic requirements, the chances are good that other NESCAC and even Ivy League schools are interested as well.

Carovano admitted that "more effort is probably given to the recruitment of students with athletic skills than student with, for example, musical, poetic, or dramatic skills." The logic behind Hamilton's recruiting efforts in that it is necessary to do so because the schools against which Hamilton competes do the same thing. "Unlike good football players, good singers get very few letters from other schools, so we don't feel we have to send as many," said Carovano.

Though NESCAC puts some limitations on recruiting, such as visiting high schools, the academic limitations that Hamilton imposes make recruiting even tougher. "You have to find a quality player who is also a quality student," said Murphy. "It's very difficult, but not impossible." Long noted that there are no presidential prerogatives, as they exist at other schools, that can circumvent the admission process, and that "the final judgment on academic excellence cannot be tampered with."

There is, to a certain extent, a contradiction involved in recruiting at Hamilton. How does one justify, in a program designed to maximize participation, trying to recruit the participants?

Athletics can be seen as merely another way to attract students to the school. Marc White '79, a football and lacrosse player, said that he selected Hamilton for its academic reputation. "Had sports been very important, I probably would have gone elsewhere."

Academic emphasis seemingly does not suffer when combined with athletics. According to Gulick, athletes tend to do better scholastically in the season in which they are playing than out of season. Several athletes confirmed this, noting that participating in a sport forces them to budget their time.

Sports at Hamilton is one of the most visible aspects of college life and one of the most invisible. The publicity accompanying the basketball team and football team has given the college national exposure. *The Spectator* has been "scooped" twice on sports stories by the *New York Times* this year.

Yet the assumptions behind the sports program, indeed, behind sports in general, have gone largely unexamined and unchallenged. Gene Long stated that "I hope that the department would not be the first to accept the new nor to reject the old." Hamilton seems to be escalating sports along with the rest of America. We are not doing it quickly, as Union did, but the impression that sports are growing every year is hard to dispel.

Some good things have been done recently. As Long said, "there is no facility in the Est that gives more priority to students, faculty, and staff than we do right now." Hamilton has as much time open in all its athletic facilities for recreational play as seems possible. This is a positive step, as is the continued development of a strong intramural program. Both allow ample opportunity for the participant to take part in Hamilton atheltics.

It is on an intercollegiate level that the most serious questions can be raised. Everyone seems to feel that intercollegiate athletics have a value and place in the Hamilton liberal arts education. No one, however, is concerned at the direction it is taking. Were athletics to be elevated above other extracurricular activities, such as the choir, which also provides an opportunity to participate and entertainment, the college would be risking a great deal. Student-athletes are just that: students first, and athletes second. If the athletic side is blown out of proportion, for example, by over-publicizing it or giving it more attention than it deserves, the ideals of Hamilton will be seriously impaired.

Diary of a Propagandist

By Jeff Overholtzer

"...Even though we all recognize the value of cities, the state and federal governments are generally reluctant to extend support commensurate with the city's importance."

"We, the Democratic Assembly, are deeply aware of this inequity. We've laid aside wasteful, inefficient programs, the legacy of 16 years of Republican rule, and have forged a new, comprehensive urban program. This new program incorporates state-federal partnerships for a broader funding base, and a special division to coordinate and plan our urban initiatives..."

This sort of thing is not likely to be glossed over by liberal-minded members of a college community. Inflated, bombastic prose, you say? Yes, but it's the kind of campaign rhetoric that every hand-pumping, prolix politician has ever used. The above passage is an excerpt of a speech on urban issues that I wrote while working for the New York State Assembly last summer; if you followed the fall campaigns closely, you may have been treated to that little piece of demagoguery on TV or in the papers.

The speech was but one of the countless public relations documents cranked out by Assembly Editorial Services and slickly packaged in brochures and newsletters. These mass-mailed pamphlets employ a judicious blend of Madison Avenue advertising hype and straight facts and figures to both impress and inform the public.

But let me begin at the beginning.

□

My initial "contact" in Albany was a Hamilton alumnus who presently holds the post of Director of the Legislative Staff. During one of my spring vacations, I donned my new suit and drove to the capital to meet this man, get a glimpse of state government in action, and see about getting a summer job.

I remember being singularly unimpressed with the thought of visiting the state capital; I envisioned a ramshackle statehouse, with crumbling cornices and worn, sagging steps. I was certainly unprepared for the Empire State Plaza (or Rocky's Folly, so named by some because of the millions of tax dollars the former governor used to build the facility), highlighted by a long Versailles-type basin with fountains and having a number of large, angular concrete and glass buildings around the perimeter. In the underground Concourse, I saw scores of impeccably-dressed men and women gliding though the marble halls. People with briefcases and sheaves of paper were animatedly discussing the events of the day; there was a feeling of excitement, and tension that pervaded the place.

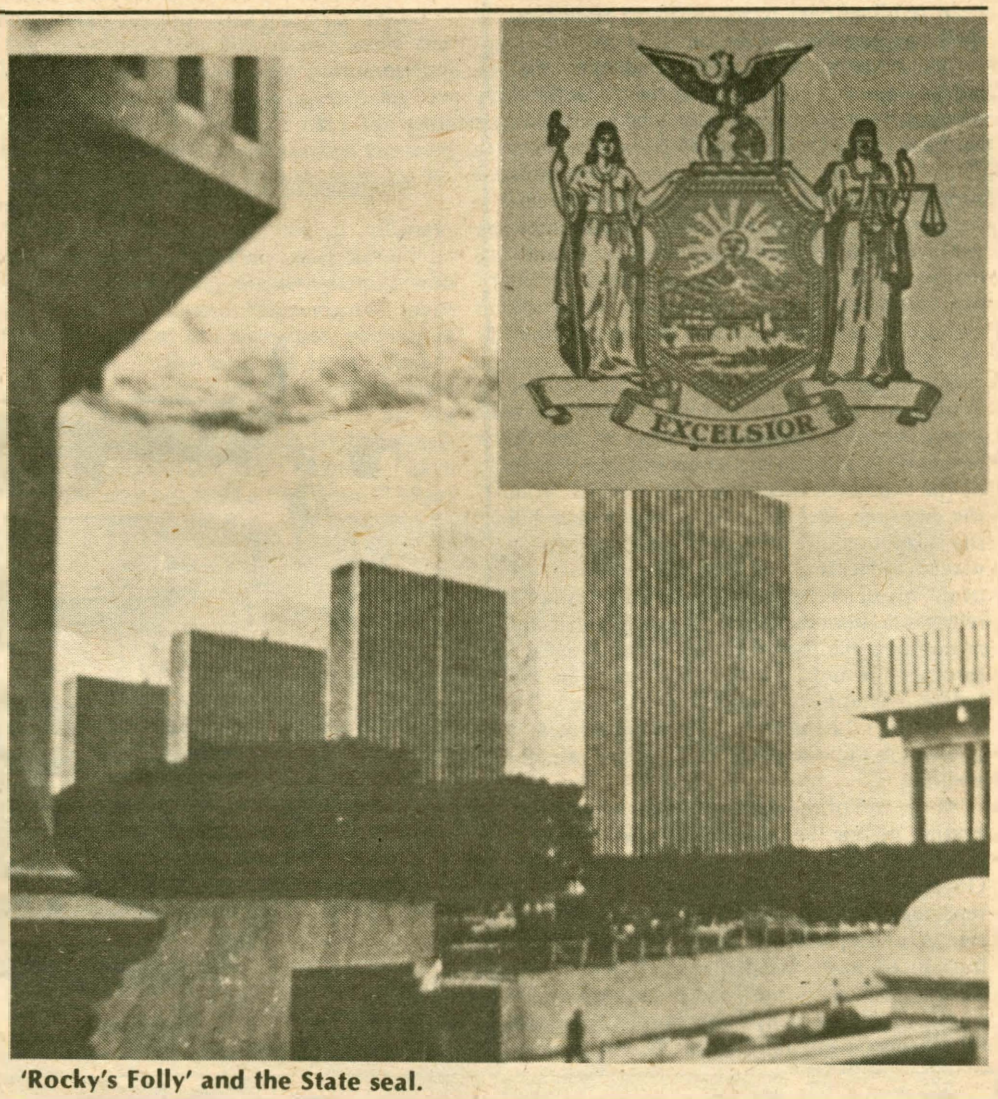
These varying images were to correspond with my alternating views of government later on: sometimes Albany seemed like a mindless, machine-like bureaucracy, and at other times it seemed like a place of ideas and ideals which people with enthusiasm and a genuine humanitarian concern implemented in legislations.

When I first started at Editorial Services, the latter view prevailed. I leafed through the Governor's press releases and read assemblymen's newsletters. Everyday the Governor appropriated a million or so dollars to some worthy concern, and the newsletters were full of grand plans for sweeping urban reform, housing projects, new funding schemes for social programs, and a myriad of other Good Things. The people I worked with were genuinely concerned with what they were doing; promoting the interests of the Democratic Party, the party of promise and progress. Even the secretaries were motivated by a supreme faith in the Democratic way.

The man who, in my eyes, epitomized the energy and enthusiasm of the capital was Ray Day, a writer/editor for Ed. Services. With an armful of new press releases, he would race to the photocopy machine, calling to me over his shoulder, "If you want to talk to me you've got to move fast. I've got to do a certain number of things in a day, and I can't afford to slow down, you know what I mean?" In fact, if you don't use the right approach, no-one in Albany will give you the time of day. Ray "showed me the ropes," instructing me in the proper modes of gaining access to an assemblyman. Ray suggested making most transactions in person rather than by phone: "If you're right there and make direct contact they'll know you're making an effort and really interested." If a reporter makes an appointment to interview an assemblyman, he should call about an hour before the appointed time, "just as a reminder." Finally, in order to talk with an assemblyman or press secretary, one must be an authorized person: "Tell 'em you're with Ray Day," Ray advised.

I was given my first assignment: assemble information about urban issues and legislation and write a long feature article on the subject. Clutching my notepad and pens, I headed for the Assembly Chamber to try to get an interview. Ray had told me that the best way to interview an assemblyman was to "grab him off the floor during a lull in the proceedings." Soon I was walking on the plush red carpet of the Chambers, and passed through double glass doors flanked by attendants in uniform and into the press area. The Secretary was reading off bills from atop a high podium overlooking the Assembly floor, which was arranged in a king of Roman forum configuation: "Bill A-20986, an amendment of the insurance law to alter bonding practices for minority contractors..." With some trepidation I approached one of the attendants and whispered, "Could you please ask Assemblyman Miller to come off the floor for a short interview... I'm with Ray Day, Editorial Services."

I soon discovered that I had no reason to be intimidated. All of the assemblymen I spoke with were warm and congenial, and they spoke to me at length as I furiously scribbled notes. First, I spoke about red-lining with Assemblyman Del Toro, the chairman of the Banking and Housing Policy Subcommmittee. Red-lining is a practice of insurance companies which denies coverage to certain parties that reside in "high-risk" neighborhoods. Banks



'Rocky's Folly' and the State seal.

Jeff Overholtzer '81 has written prolifically for this paper in the past in his role as Feature Editor.

But despite the confusion and frustration in working for the government, there are rewards. State government at its best is an incubator of ideas, a place where a great dialogue is set up between interests...

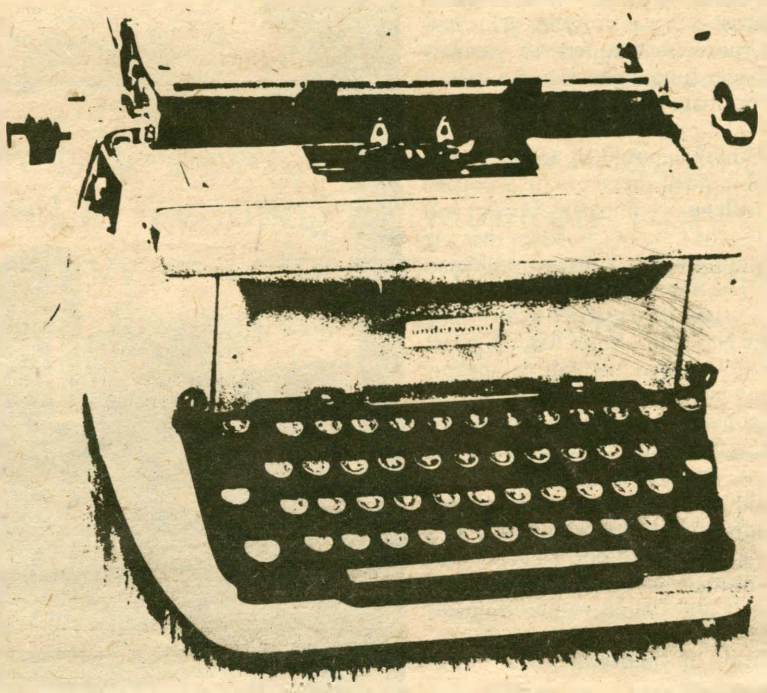
that use red-lining may not extend loans to those living in bad neighborhoods. Del Toro deplores this practice because it denies fiscally responsible people living within a red-lined area the opportunity to take out loans and improve their housing stock. Del Toro cites as an example the Bronx: "Most of the area has been red-lined, yet there are many residences there that are financially sound."

The Assemblyman further maintains that banks use social as well as financial criteria to determine eligibility for a loan: a person's race, his background, the kind of friends he has. Those arbitrary guidelines keep responsible people who need loans from getting them. Del Toro's final admonition was, "Remember, red-lining is a self-fulfilling prophecy." Banks tell people in red-lined areas that they live in bad neighborhoods, and then deny them the capital for self-improvement, thus aggravating the situation.

Del Toro, who represents a district in New York City, has to be concerned with urban decay. Another perennial problem of the Big Apple is the erosion of the tax base as a result of the exodus of businesses and workers from the city area. Del Toro responded with a bill that would require municipal workers to reside within the city lines. Governor Carey took care of the big busineses; almost every day his press releases announced that he had "created a more favorable financial climate for business" through the use of loans solicited from the federal government. The "saving of the city" was a crucial issue during the campaign, and one which undoubtedly helped Carey win re-election.

At the end of the summer, when Albany was gearing up for the big election push, tempers sometimes ran short. I attended one of the Governor's press conferences, at which a reporter asked Carey why he was suddenly putting great emphasis on crime (Carey had just introduced new, stringent crime laws, which were approved by the Senate and Assembly) when he had had many opportunities for crime reform previously in his tenure. Carey explod-

"...Even though we all recognize the value of cities, the state and federal governments are generally reluctant to extend support commensurate with the city's importance."



coming...

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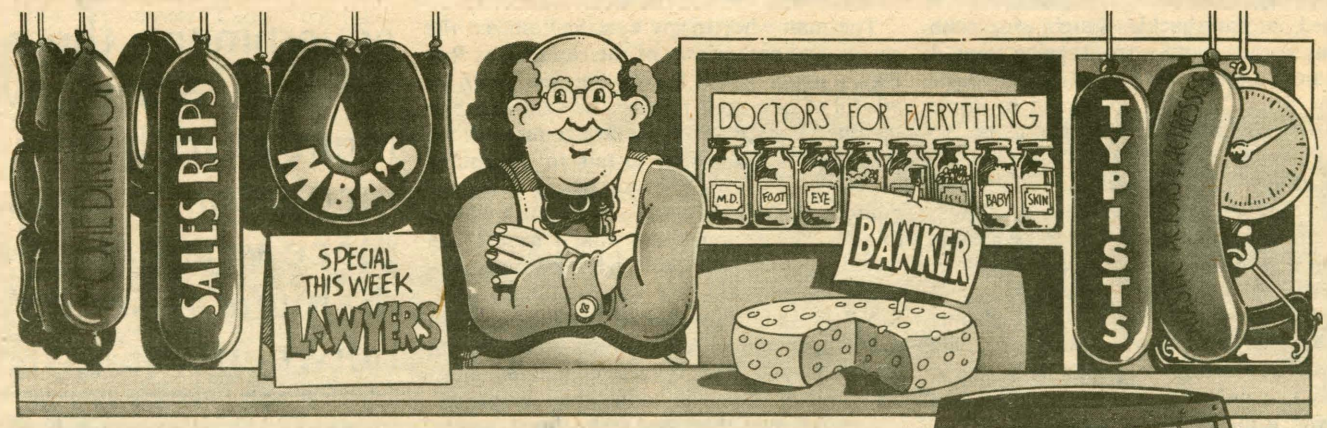

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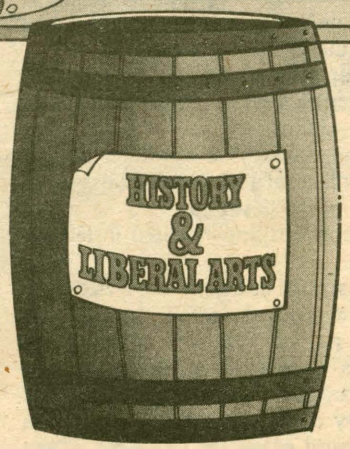

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ed, telling the reporter to "get his facts straight" and complaining about the abuses of the press. When the reporter muttered something about browbeating, Carey went off into another tirade, exclaiming, "I'm not browbeating...!"

That's politics as usual, I suppose. I was astounded, however, by some of the bureaucratic excesses in Albany. New York State government, with its multitude of agencies, divisions, departments, etc., is as large as a big business. Inefficiency, is, of course, the byword of democracy, but there are many bureaucratic blunders in Albany that have nothing to do with the decision-making process. One secretary told me of the time she was instructed to make several thousand copies of a document as soon as possible. The work took several days, and when the boxloads of copies were finally delivered as per her boss's instructions, he said he no longer had any need for them!

I had similar experiences. Several times when I made an appointment to interview an assemblyman, I turned up at the appropriate time, only to find an empty office or have a secretary tell me that she had nothing scheduled for that time.

But despite the confusion and frustration in working for the government, there are rewards. State government at its best is an incubator of ideas, a place where a great dialogue is set up between contending interests and out of which a greater understanding and awareness of the issues is evolved. Provincialism withers away before this continuous exposure to new perspectives. During an interview with a black assemblyman, I once asked if there wasn't a danger of "reverse discrimination," with quotas for minority hiring being used by many businesses and institutions (this was before the Bakke decision). Instead of making the expected response—that we had to make up for past discrimination against blacks—the assemblyman replied that "There have always been quotas. People started to complain about quotas only when they started to be applied to blacks."

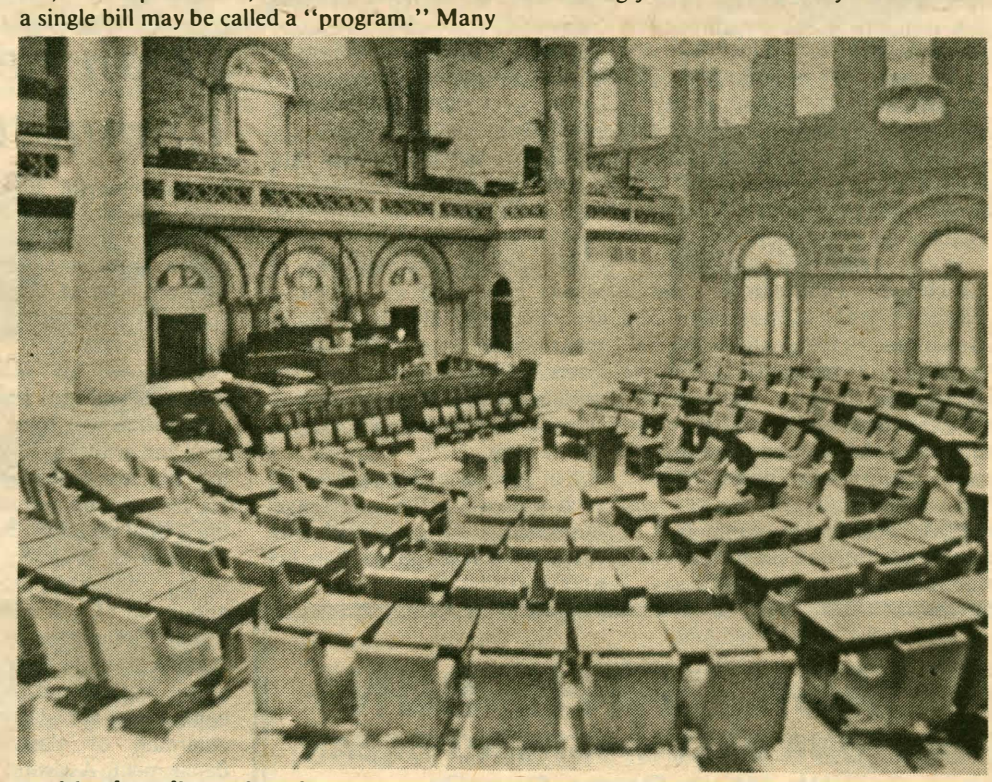
Assembly Editorial Services, the department I worked for, is a kind of public relations agency for the Democrats in Albany (there is a corresponding agency for the Republicans). The Governor and the Assembly are presented in the newsletters as a team; thus, the Governor can be given partial credit for any package of bills proposed by members of the Assembly, and vice-versa. When Carey's comprehensive crime package was passed, most assemblymen jumped on the bandwagon and lauded the success of "The Assembly and the Governor in passing badly-needed crime reform measures."

The newsletter that you receive every few months with your assemblyman's grinning face on the cover is in fact not written by the assemblyman at all. He must okay the final proof written by Ed. Services, but the only thing he himself pens is a short letter to his constituents on the cover.

Newsletters do contain factual information— but make no mistake, they are advertisements as well. They are well-padded with glowing adjectives, and "buzzwords" make bills seem brilliant in conception, massive in scope and size: "Eve launches Urban drive"; "...we put together a streamlined, efficient program." Some widely used terms are "tough" (as applied to crime bills), "responsible," "comprehensive,"and "efficient." Even a single bill may be called a "program." Many bills are "reforms," frequently of Republican misdeeds or mismanagement.

One universal rule for speeches and newsletters is, "Point the finger at the other party." If a bill favored by the Assembly has not passed at the time of the writing, it is "being held up in the Senate." It is also standard practice to document the positive trend in programs and spending practices over the past four years, since before that time was the dark age of Republican rule (which lasted for 16 years): money-squandering, insensitive and disorganized.

But if there were some things about state government that discouraged or disappointed me, I was generally heartened by what I saw. From the assemblymen who make legislation to the writers who sell it, there were three unflagging qualities among the people I met: energy, enthusiasm and idealism. Receiving little remuneration and little of the recognition that goes with being a Senator or Congressman, employees in state government forgo less demanding jobs to make society a little better.



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BRIEFS NEWS BRIEFS NEWS

Begelman Quits Psych Department

By Philip Ruppel

David Begelman, associate professor of psychology, has resigned his position effective the end of the month, the Spectator has learned.

Begelman, who has already left the campus for his home in Connecticut, attributed his decision to his unwillingness to commute from his home to Clinton, his desire to go back to clinical work and the uncertain future of his position in the Psychology Department.

Begelman's resignation is significant as it comes in the wake of W. Lawrence Gulick's resignation as Dean of the College and his assumption as a full-time professor in the psychology department.

According to George Gescheider, chairman of the psychology deparmtent, Begelman's resignation had nothing to do with Gulick. Begelman, however, expressed in a statement released to the Spectator that there was a slight relationship between the two events.

"My decision to resign had nothing to do with the merger," the statement began, "and is only tangentially related to recent events within the Psychology Department. The latter only hastened my decision not to continue through the second semester."

The statement continued: "I cannot envision Dean Gulick's full-time presence in the department as having anything but a positive impact on it. He is a remarkably capable man and one who has given unstinting support to my own professional activities. I agree with President Carovano that his performance as Dean of the Faculty during the most difficult transition period has been impressive. He should be instrumental in shaping the future direction of psychology on the Hill.

"My own view is that what is widely concerned as curricular imbalance within the department is itself the indirect consequence of broader issues pertaining to the physical separation of Hamilton and Kirkland psychology.

"In the unsettling context of such a division, the long range implications for personnel and curricular issues can no more be attributed to conniving psychophysicists than they can to devils in the woods."

In a telephone interview last week, Begelman explained that since Gulick's arrival in the department, "one person had to go because the department is only budgeted for seven." Begelman felt that his departure would alleviate the anxieties about the future of certain members within the department.

The former psychology professor also expressed his gratitude to the college.

"I am extremely grateful to Hamilton for all the support I have received," he said. Begelman cited the fellowship he was granted this semester, the money he has received for research, and the conventions he was sent to through the college.

Begelman arrived in Clinton in September, 1972 as a Professor at Kirkland College.

Dean Search Starts Up; Committee Begins to Meet

by Jonathan Hill

A Search Committee was formed last week to seek and review applicants for the position of Dean of the College to replace outgoing Dean W. Lawrence Gulick.

Composed of four faculty members and two students, the Committee will soon begin the long and arduous task of reviewing the numerous applications for the position and then choosing a final applicant for the job.

Frederick Wagner, chairman of the English department, was appointed Chairman of the Search Committee by President Carovano soon after the committee was formed. Also on the committee are Derek Jones, chairman of the Economics department, Assistant Professor of Classics Nancy Rabinowitz, and Rick Werner, assistant professor of Philosophy. All four faculty members were elected by vote at a faculty meeting last week.

Also on the Committee are two students of either the junior or the senior classes who were interviewed and then appointed by the Nominations Committee of the Student Assembly this past week. The names of the students were not known before this article went to press. When asked about the students' role, Molly Murdoch, president of the Student Assembly, said that she expected them to have "just as much power" as the other members of the committee and to work closely with them. These sentiments were reiterated by Wagner in an interview last week.

When queried about the starting date of the committee's work, Wagner said that the real work of the committee would not begin until after the two students had been named. Wagner did say, however, that some of the preliminary work has already been discussed by the committee and the president. An advertisement asking for applications for the position has been discussed in outline form and, according to Wagner, will be published in academic journals and publications of equal opportunity organizations. Aside from applications submitted by individuals, the committee, in a memo to be distributed to the college community, including the entire student body, has asked for suggestions and nominations of members of the community for the position.

The committee is "most eager for suggestions from the community," according to Wagner, who went on to stress that he and his committee would greatly appreciate the help and cooperation of the entire community in their task.

When asked what kind of man or woman the committee hoped to find for the position, Wagner said that because of the earliness of the date he could only speak for himself, but that he would like to get someone "at least as good as Dean Gulick." He added that it would be "very difficult" to find someone of Gulick's caliber.

The process through which the applicants will go will be similar to that which the different academic departments use in screening prospective department members, said Wagner. The Search Committee will receive many applications, and by reading them through and discussing them, the committee will narrow down the field of applicants. Eventually, after the number of applicants has been reduced to a relative few, those candidates will be asked to come to the campus for interviews with the committee. Wagner could give no definite date for announcing the committee's decision, saying it was impossible to give one for this kind of search. He did say that he hoped to have a final choice before June 30, the effective date of Dean Gulick's resignation.

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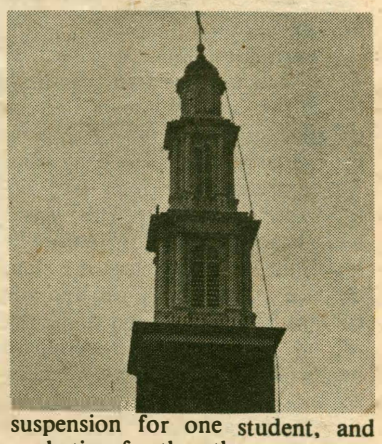

In the early morning hours of December 7th, two students broke into the Chapel and removed several pipes from the organ, according to Dean of Student Affairs R. Gordon Bingham. Several windows were smashed, and the repair costs and the pipe reinstallation charges are estimated at approximately $600.

The pipes were eventually recovered in the basement of the AD fraternity house. The Dean said, however, that he was quite certain that "the pipes were put there on purpose, as a plant," and that no member of the AD fraternity was involved.

Bingham also said that the two offending students had been identified and were brought before the Judiciary Board. The result: a suspension for one student, and probation for the other.

Although the names of the students are posted on the window of the Student Affairs office, the Dean requested that their names not be printed in the Spectator.

Markwardt Departs

During the Christmas recess, Fred Markwardt, director of the college print shop and a man known and like by many people on the Hill, departed for greener pastures.

According to Mr. William Jamison, director of personnel for the college, Markwardt said that he was leaving the college for a better job as a supervisor in a Herkimer print shop near his home in Mohawk.

Markwardt worked on the Hill for almost four and a half years and among staff and students alike, was considered a friendly and helpful man. According to Tony Torchia, a member of the print shop staff, Markwardt was especially helpful to student organizations such as the Spectator and the Concert Committee and was respnsible for many of the posters seen around campus.

Although Markwardt's leave-taking was not a complete surprise to those who worked with him, his sudden departure did surprise most students who tried to find him after the Christmas break.

Snow Above Average

While students at Hamilton who come from warmer parts of the US might think otherwise, this year's snowfall has been nothing exceptional. "We're just a little above average over last year," says Nicholas Drumluck of the Weather Service Bureau.

Drumluck records snowfall accumulation and other meterological data at his house in nearby New York Mills, providing information for a wide variety of people ranging from lawyers and conservationists to newsmen and those who are simply curious. Drumluck says that at the present time the area of Utica and its surrounding environs (including Clinton) have been graced with approximately 54.6 inches of snow. Judging from recent years' surveys, we can probably expect between 100 and 120 inches by April. He remains cautious about doing any precise forecasting, however.

"You can never tell, the weather can turn any time," he remarked. So, don't transfer to the University of South Florida just yet.

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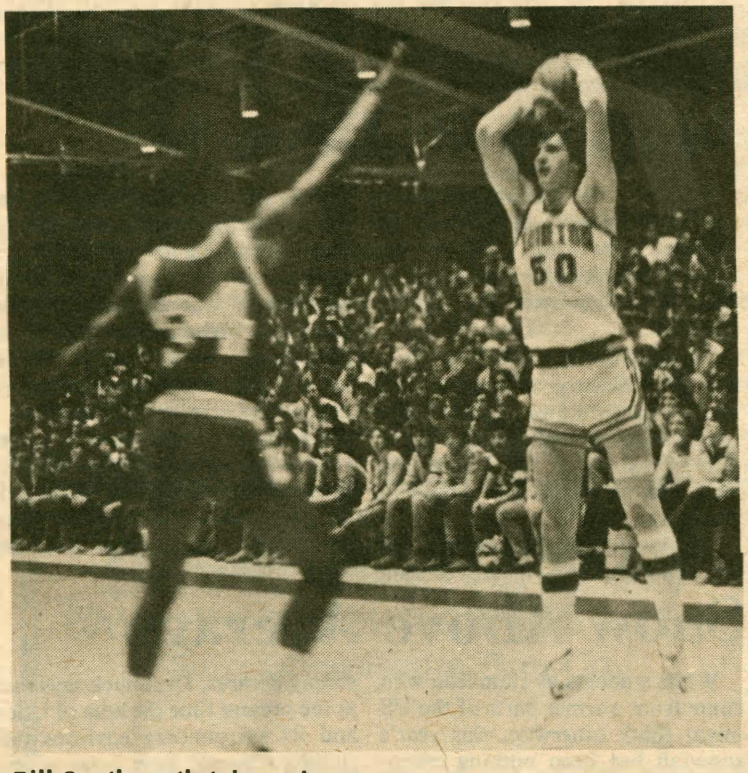
SPORTS ROUNDUP

A Stunning Start in Basketball

by Tom Button

In a season the early part of which was supposed to provide a test of the basketball team's potential the Conts have provided thrills for every spectator. The team has a 7-1 record and an impressive victory over Hartwick. This year's team has won most if its games by hustling and playing a tight defense. Last year's run-and-gun offense has been slowed down due to the lack of an experienced bench. The team has been led by senior Cedric Oliver who in the first six games averaged 23.2 points from the field and shot 58% from the field. The front line has provided almost all of Hamilton's offense, averaging over fifty points a game. In the games to this point the ability of the front line to stay out of foul trouble has been instrumental in the Continental's victories. In Hamilton's only loss thus far the front line had early foul trouble.



Bill Southworth takes a jumper.

Against St. John Fisher the Continentals faced one of the better Division III teams in the state. Hamilton trailed by three points at half-time, and came out strong at the beginning of the second half. The game was close as the teams traded baskets. Oliver scored 12 points in the half before fouling out of the game with 8 minutes left to be played. Without Oliver the Conts could not handle St. John's, which scored ten straight points to put the game out of reach. In the last five minutes both Grimmer and Southworth fouled out of the game as Hamilton lost 81-72. Against Roberts Wesleyan the Continentals played a sloppy first half, but were tied at 43 points. In the second half Oliver came alive and led the team to an 84-75 win. Oliver had 27 points and all five starters were in double figures.

In the Hamilton Tipoff Tournament Hamilton faced Plattsburgh State in the second game on opening night after Drew had defeated Utica 77-66. The Continentals took an early lead in the first three minutes, outscoring Plattsburgh 16-4, on baskets by Oliver, Southworth, and Magee. Southworth hit on a variety of jumpers as he scored 21 points and lead the team with 13 points at half-time. The team retained their lead and went to a four-corner offense with 4:52 left and a 64-58 lead. They went on to win 77-66. Plattsburgh was led by Baldwin with sixteen points. In the championship game against Drew the Continentals played a poor first half and were tied with Drew at 33 points. In the second half the Continentals played aggressive ball and freshman Tim Hale scored 14 points as the team took the game 83-56 for the championship.

The 59-56 overtime victory over Utica in the opening round the Utica Christman Tournament came after poor Hamilton foul shooting allowed the Pioneers to tie the game 50-50. In the overtime period, John Magee and Cedric Oliver combined for all nine Hamilton points, Magee hitting four foul shots in the last 22 seconds. The championship game against Hartwick produced some of Hamilton's finest basketball. A tenacious man-to-man defense kept the Continentals in the contest despite being outshot and outrebounded. Oliver, the tournament M.V.P., had 24 points to lead Hamilton.

The Blue led throughout the game and held a 60-55 with five minutes left. Hartwick fought back though, and took a 63-62 lead with three minutes to go. After Keith Whelan missed a shot with 1:55 left, Hartwick stalled until 38 seconds remained.

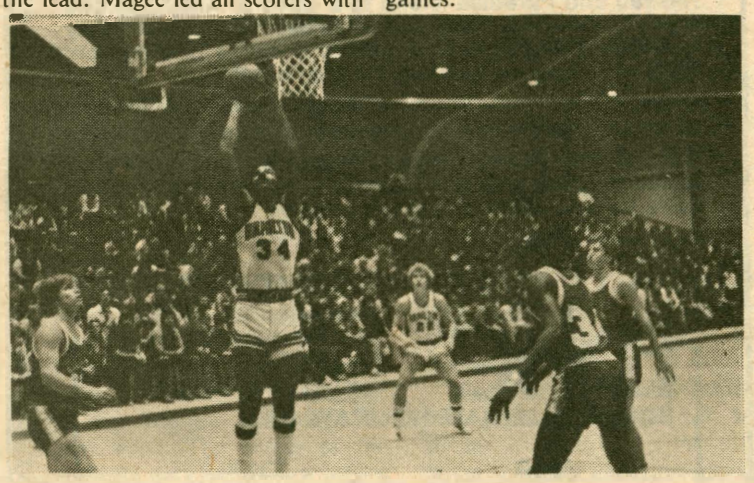
Oliver Comes Through

Sophomore Bruce Weir then drew a crucial charging call to get Hamilton the ball back. Oliver, fouled on a rebound, made both ends of a one-and-one to give the Blue the lead again. Larry Carpenter took Hartwick's last shot with three seconds to go but the shot bounced off the rim and the rebound was put in after the buzzer. Bill Southworth injured his knee with 6:40 left in the game but had 18 points and was named to All-Tourney team along with Carpenter and Fulmer of Hartwick.

In Hamilton's first game of the new year the Continentals lost Bill Southworth for at least the remainder of January. The team had been playing a sloppy game, jumping out to an early 15-6 lead on scoring by all five starters. The Blue held 23-14 lead with 9:05 left in the half but allowed Williams to chip away the lead to 3 points at 32-29. The Continentals were outscored 6-2 in the last minute and went into the locker room down 35-34. In the second half John Magee walked out with a hot hand and hit three outside shots in a row to give the Blue a 40-35 lead. Williams fought back to tie the score at 42, but a basket by Kevin Grimmer broke the tie and the Continentals never relinquished the lead. Magee led all scorers with 19 points and showed the kind of offense the backcourt will have to contribute more often. Hamilton went to a four-corner offense with 2:44 left in the game. Maggee and Burkhard each hit foul shots to give Hamilton a 74-69 victory.

In a game which was played by both the bench and the starters, Hamilton defeated Eisenhower 81-65, but the score was no indication of the differences between the two squads. Hamilton leaped out to a 16-4 lead on baskets by Oliver, Grimmer, and Bob Johnson. The Continentals went into the locker room with a 46-27 lead paced by Grimmer's 19 points as he used his height against the shorter and slower Eisenhower squad. In the second half Oliver led the team with 16 points. The game game the fans a chance to see the bench play. The Iron Squad, of sorts, contibuted 11 points to the cause. The victory raised the team's overall record to 7-1.

In the next two weeks, the team will miss Bill Southworth. Says Coach Murphy, "Billy's a fine ball player and we'll have to fight that much harder without him." He said he is happy with the team's progress to this point, but feels that they will get better. Murphy has no plans for changing the starting five at this point "... but I might go the bench more in the next few games."



Hamilton's forwards (Cedric Oliver, above) have led the offense while the guards (John Magee, below) have directed the defense.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Women Hoopsters Begin to Play

by Nancy Sackett

Hamilton's women's basketball team has completed three games of its first season and has come out with an impressive 2-1 record. The team, consisting of fifteen women, plays schools as large as Albany State. The women are doing a great job considering the size of the school and inexperience of the players.

The women opened their season November 30 with an almost capacity crowd in the Alumni Gym. They fought Albany in a point-by-point battle and ended up with a surprise 70-69 win. The team travelled to Clarkson in December 2 and again kept up with their competitors, squeaking by with a 36-35 victory. The women's first experience in the field house wasn't as fortunate. They went up against Herkimer on January 5th in a game marred by turn-overs. After a close first half, Herkimer broke loose in the second half and defeated the Continentals 91-43.

Herkimer was the first real test for the women playing against an aggressive man-to-man defense. Coach Sue Zawacki plans to employ man-to-man defense in her team play. Zawacki feels that her team is playing better basketball now than in their first game, regardless of the score: "Regardless of their won-lost record, the players are understanding the game now. They're learning about self-discipline and commitment and we're ahead in that respect."

Individual Effort

So far it has been indivudial improvement that has helped the team, but Coach Zawacki is expecting to see better team play. "Our shooting percentage from the floor is disastrous, but these things take time."

In the first season of women's basketball at Hamilton, it is generally the freshmen who have the most experience. Zawacki includes all three freshmen on the team, Kathy Corsi, Marra Harris, and Terri Smith, amongst her top players. All three have come straight from high school competition. Captain Stephanie Lovell, and forward Laura Slomka also had previous high school experience, but haven't competed in a few years. In fact, some players on the team have never had any team experience before, but everyone is definitely learning.

Strong Support

Coach Zawacki is pleased with the support of the college community and feels no pressure to live up to the men's varsity standards. In fact, the men have been quite helpful and encouraging to the team, she said.

Although Herkimer is definitely the toughest of the teams the women have played so far, the women and Coach Zawacki feel they definitely have a chance to win in the next meeting on January 17th at Herkimer. Zawacki feels that R.P.I. and LeMoyne will be tough teams to beat. She played basketball at Cortland, which is in a higher level of competition, and is unfamiliar with the other teams in this division.

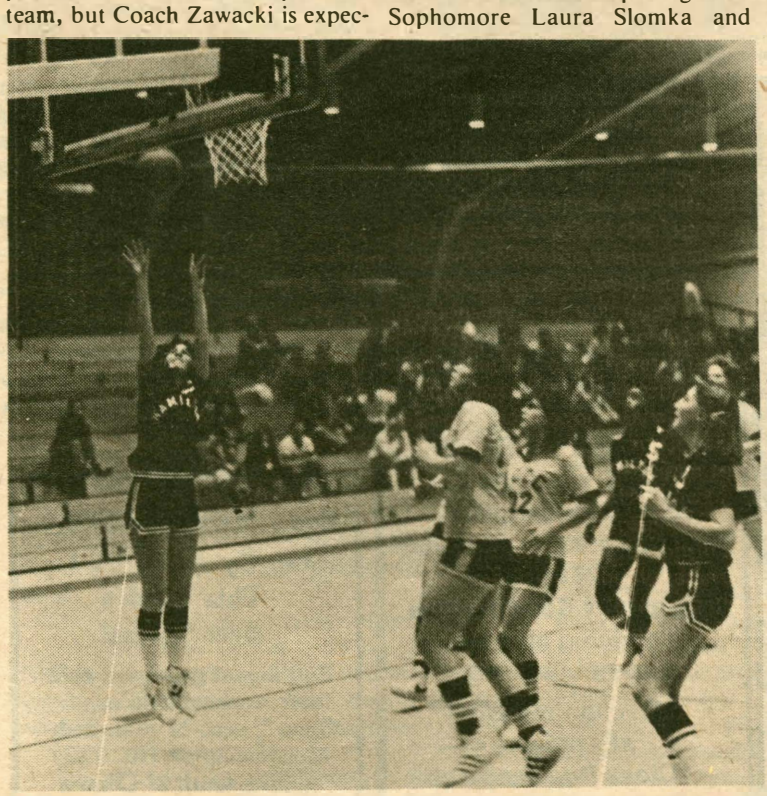
Freshman Kathy Corsi is the leading scorer and rebounder for the team averaging ten points and eleven rebounds per game. Sophomore Laura Slomka and freshman Marra Harris follow Corsi in points and Jacquie Rushen follows in rebounds with seven a game.

Marra Harris looks for the open woman.

Coach Zawacki feels that, although as a team the women make only about 60 percent of their free throws, foul shooting has been a definite strong point with the team in their two victories. Corsi is shooting 91 percent and Harris 80 percent from the line. Harris is also the key defensive player, leading the team in forced turn-overs.

The team has some trouble at the center position. Isabel Moore has had trouble with injuries. Chris Doonan is inexperienced, but according to Zawacki is doing a good job for the team.

Zawacki's first seven players are forward/guard Captain Stephanie Lovell, forwards Laura Slomka, Patty Stronach, and Corsi, and guards Harris, Amy Buckalter, and Terri Smith. The team also includes seniors Doonan and Moore, juniors Ainslie Kirkland and Jacquie Rushen, and sophomores Meredith Best, Mary Ann Bargh, Patty Fujii and Susie Drucker.



Kathy Corsi looks for a basket.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Swimmers Beat Williams With Style

by Phil Robinson

Paced by two come-from-behind victories, the men's swim team is off to a 3-0 start with wins over Cortland State, R.P.I., and Williams as Coach Eric MacDonald and his Hamilton mermen point towards an undefeated season.

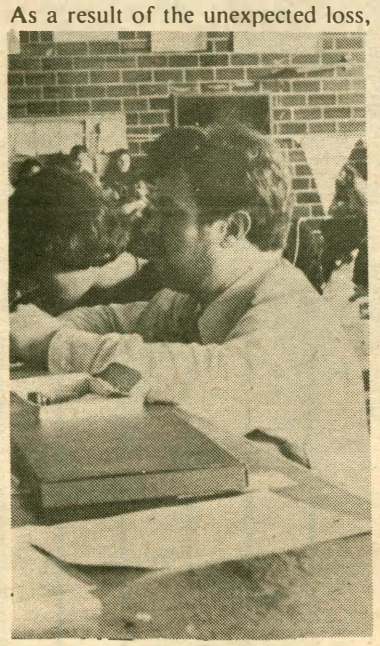
In what MacDonald termed "the most satisfying victory of my coaching career," Hamilton captured the final event of the Williams meet, the 400-yard freestyle relay, to edge Williams 57-55 at the Alumni Pool. The win was Hamilton's first over the Ephmen since the 1974-1975 season.

The meet began on an ominous note as the Continentals' 400-yard medley relay team of Jim Yow (back) Bob Black (breast), Rich Lee (butterfly), and Matt Reed (free) finished first, but was disqualified for a false start.

Switching Swimmers

As a result of the unexpected loss, MacDonald was forced to alter his lineup, using Norm Lyster in both the 500 and 1000-yard freestyle and relacing Lyster on the 400-yard freestyle relay team with Hugh Vickery.

MacDonald's strategy worked perfectly as Lyster, the sophomore All-American, won both the 500 (5:03.3) and the 1000 (10:31.6) free, while Vickery, who covered his 100 yard split in 49.5, teamed up with Emmet Reid (50.0), Clipper Besch (50.4), and Reed (47.8) to set a pool record 3:17.7 giving the 400 freestyle relay team a 2.1 second triumph.



Coach Eric MacDonald.

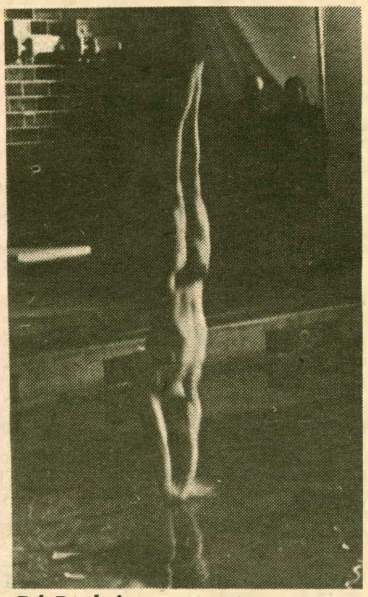
The End.

Freshman diver Ed Ptak, cited by MacDonald as having an "unbelievable amount of potential," earned ten points for the Continentals by winning both the required and optional diving events. In the latter, Ptak piled up 282.40 points setting a new school record in the process.

Picking Up Points

Along with his fine effort in the relay, Vickery also won the 200-yard freestyle while taking second place in the 100 free. Lyster, with a victory in the 200 IM, wrapped up his third win of the day. Matt Reed tied for first place in the 50 free. Other point winners for Hamilton were Craig Lasher (IM-third), Lee (fly-second), Rob Galbraith (fly-third), Reid (100 free-third), Adam Cowles (200 back-second) Yow (200 back-third), and Black (200 breast-second).

The Continentals again had to go down to the 400-yard freestyle relay before knocking off a stubborn Cortland State squad 61-52 in their season opener as Besch, Lyster, Reid and Reed outdistanced the Cortland State team by 4.5 seconds.



Ed Ptak is a new star.

Reed also won the 50 and 100 free and anchored the 400 relay with Yow, Black, and Lee. Lyster was a double winner, taking the 500 and 1000 free while Vickery won the 200 free.

Taking it Easy

Against R.P.I., the Bluefish jumped out to a 21-4 lead on their way to an easy 56-39 win. Yow (back), Dave Conn (breast), Lee (butterfly) amd Vickery (free) opened the meet with a five second victory in the 400 medley relay.

Lyster and Geoff Imboden combined for eight points going one-two in the 200-yard freestyle, as did Yow and Cowles who captured the top two spots in the 200-yard backstroke.

Reid was the only double winner for the Continentals taking both the 500 and 1000-yard freestyle. Senior Steve Root won the 200 IM with a 2:12.6.

Commented MacDonald after the victory over Williams, "Having come from behind to win two big meets has got to have given these guys some confidence." MacDonald, whose philosophy is to take one meet at a time, noted, "Now if we can beat St. Lawrence, then we've got a shot at Colgate." Colgate, the strongest opponent on Hamilton's schedule, travels to Alumni Pool for what should be a very big meet on February 13.

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A Question of Honor

By Philip Ruppel

Two years ago, Provost of the College Sidney Wertimer wrote to the *New York Times* concerning Hamilton's seventy-year-old honor system in relation to the recent West Point cheating scandal. "One reason why Hamilton College's honor system, in effect since 1909, still works is that it is narrowly confined to academic issues," the letter began.

Written by Hawley Truax, Class of 1909, the Honor Code has been, in the words of the Provost, "operated by the students themselves. They do the reporting; they are the judges. The members of the Honor Court are elected by the student body. It is a great honor to be elected; the responsibilities are profound."

Today, the Provost still supports the honor system. In fact, Wertimer and Dean of the College W. Lawrence Gulick, as well as the student chairman of the Honor Court, John Davis '79, maintain that the honor system is "going very well," in the words of Davis, and that the fraud and plagiarism that does exist on the Hill is being dealt with effectively and properly.

And yet, in the wake of all this optimism, there is distinct evidence that the faculty and administration of the college are ignoring the higher values expounded by the Honor Code. Specifically, the policy instituted in the past year denying students the chance to reschedule an examination is an example of the innate distrust of the effectiveness of the honor system. Another such example is the common practice of faculty members re-writing the exams for students who *must* take them at times other than those scheduled.

All this may seem incredibly trivial, yet viewed in the broader scheme of the honor system, it would seem that this is another instance in which the student is being misled and mistreated.

Amongst those unfortunate students who had two exams scheduled for the same day (and some had three or four in a row), a rumor was circulated that the reason one could not reschedule one's exam was because of something to do with the Honor Code (or lack of Honor Code). Whether or not this rumor is true is a question which remains unsettled.

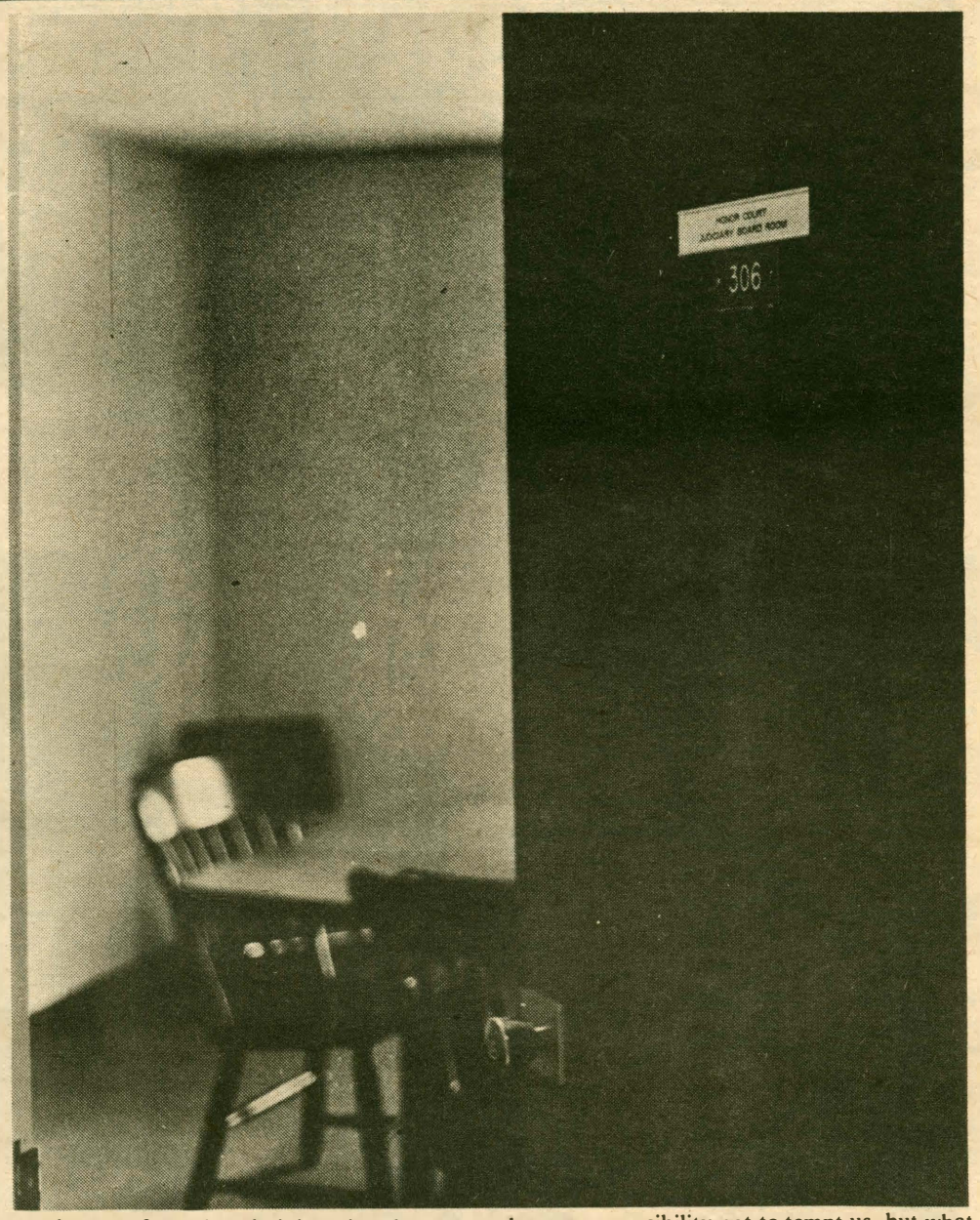
According to the Registrar, James Fitchett, about half a year ago he asked Gulick to petition the Academic Council to expand the number of exam periods from 10 to 12. While this would lessen the number of absolute conflicts (two exams occurring at the same hour), it automatically eliminated the free period, which was traditionally set aside for rescheduled tests. Simply stated, the faculty apparently felt that the students' option of having one exam per day could be sacrificed for a "more effective" system.

Davis heard about this at the time it was passed. In a recent interview, he said that he too questioned the rationale behind such a move, but soon found out that the rule had nothing to do with the Honor Code; that to reschedule would be too difficult.

Last year in Chapel, however, when Dean Traer announced the new policy, he added that this was done to "avoid putting strain on the honor system."

There's something rotten in Clinton.

John Davis, as well as every other student who mildly accepts any of this reasoning is doing himself a disservice. Why can't a student reschedule an examination? Here comes the second excuse from the administration: because, then the teacher would have to rewrite the test. Dean Gulick in a recent interview, explained the difficulty of rewriting exams. It is very hard, he said, to write two exams of comparable value. Indeed, he added, it is very hard to write *one* good exam.



Gulick has a point here. There is nothing worse than having to take a test different from the one taken by the rest of your class. It will be harder or it will be easier, and either way, someone will get the short end of the stick.

And yet, is it necessary to have to rewrite the test? After all, every freshman entering Hamilton enters with a signed agreement that he or she shall not violate the Honor Code. Well, this is the crux of the argument .

"The faculty has a responsibility to minimize the possibility of fraud," Dean Gulick says. "The faculty is encouraged...to try to avoid structuring exams to hold unreasonable temptation to students."

And yet, in theory, one might say, if the Honor system works, this would not be an issue.

In theory, yes, the Dean would reply, but in practice, it certainly is an issue because "that's the way the world is."

What the Dean is saying is that the faculty and administration trust the students only so far as to have unproctored exams and a self-administered Honor Court. When it comes to the nitty-gritty of the honor system, the part which says that the student should not cheat on exams, the faculty has decided that we cannot be trusted. What they are saying is that they have a responsibility not to tempt us, but what they mean is that they don't trust us.

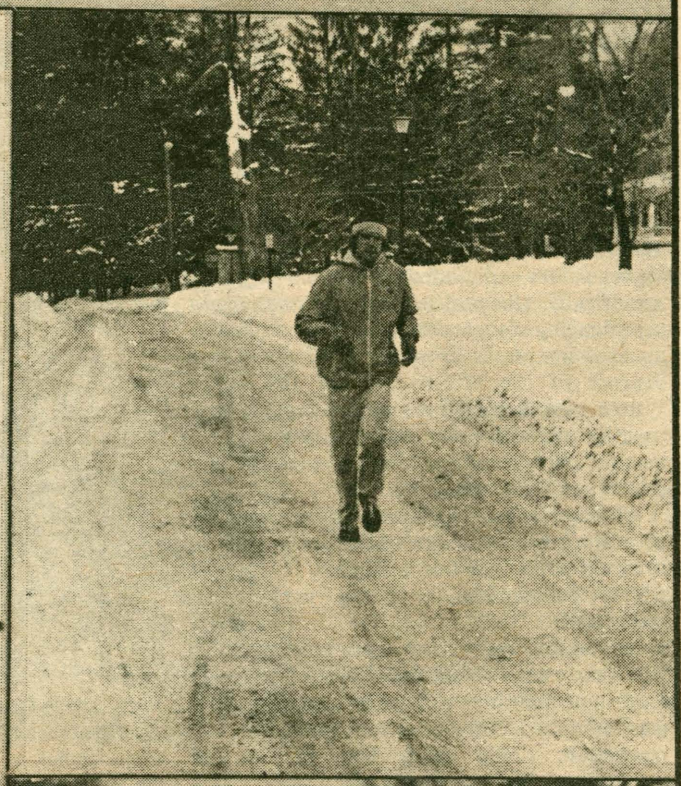
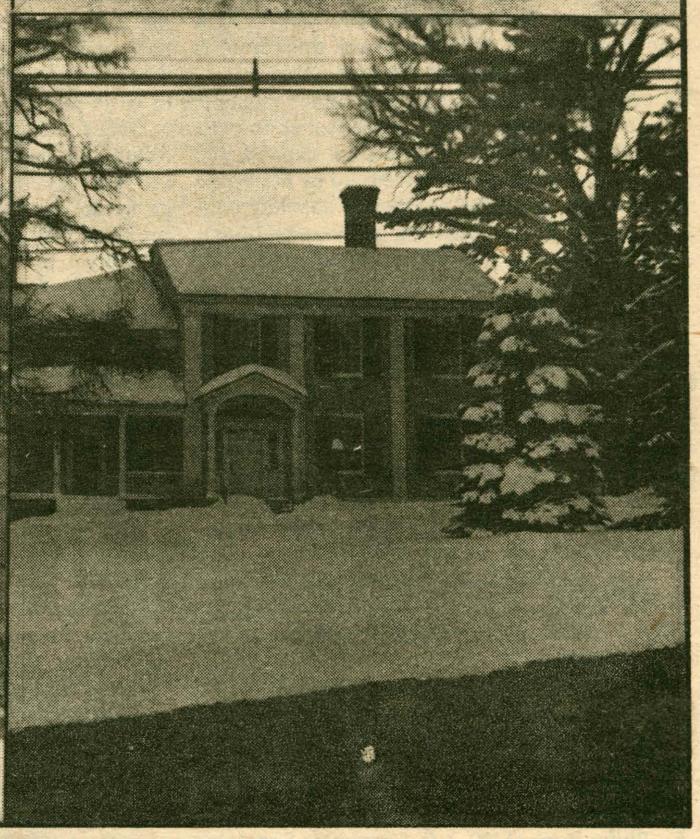
Dean Gulick expressed, in the same interview, the belief that Hamilton's honor system represents the college's committment to instill in the undergraduate certain virtues or moral principles that will be retained, or should be retained, after departure from the Hill.

□

What does all this mean? What relevance does this have to an honor code whose basic principles are ignored? If the Dean and the faculty reallv believe there will alwavs be cheating because "that's the way the world is," then why bother having an honor system?

The facts are the following: Hamilton has a well-established honor system run by students, to a certain extent. There is a student-run Honor Court which decides on penalties for violations. There are no proctors in examination rooms. We are quick to gloat about these facts.

Yet, the faculty has seen fit to step in and set bounds on how far the honor system should extend. Yes, it is fine to have unproctored tests. But, what about giving the same test twice? Never, they are now saying. Students should not be tempted to cheat. You cannot be trusted that far, they say.

Given these facts, it is clear that the honor system at Hamilton is suffering from a serious deficiency. If only the faculty and administration could be persuaded to believe that, in the words of our own Dean of the College, "fundamentally, in the end we are all accountable for our own behavior." □□

Philip Ruppel '80, a five semester Spectator staffer, will assume the Editorship in February.